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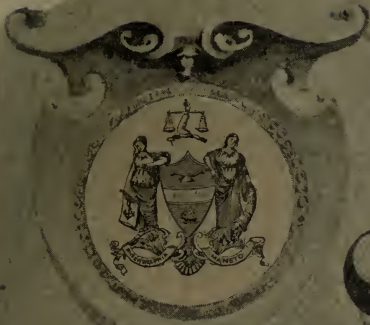




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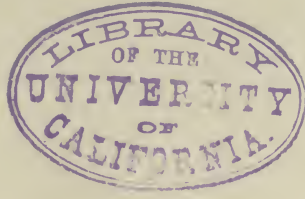
# PHILADELPHIA, THE STORY OF AN AMERICAN CITY.



W. C. F. & Co. Phila.







1892    Columbian Year    1893

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Executive and Legislative Branches

OF THE

Government of Philadelphia

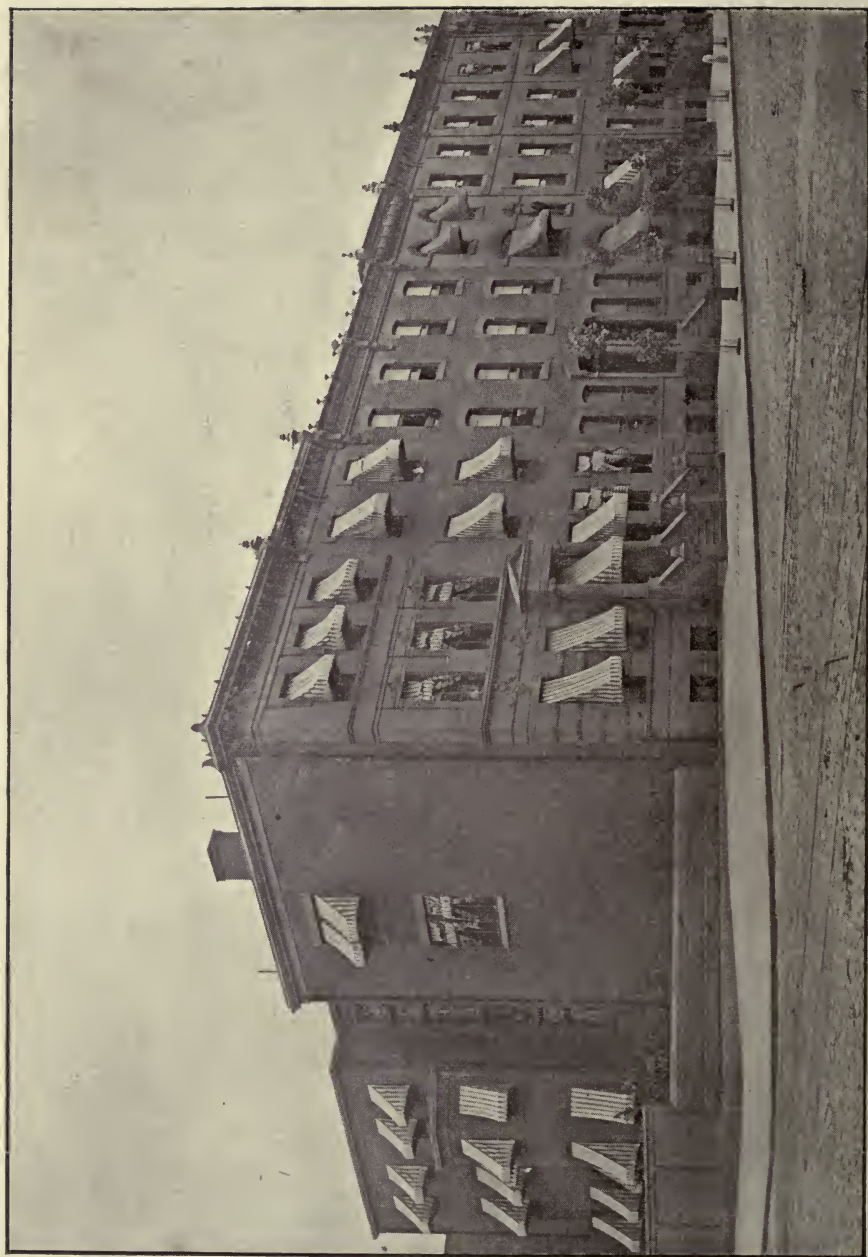
AND

World's Fair Commissioners

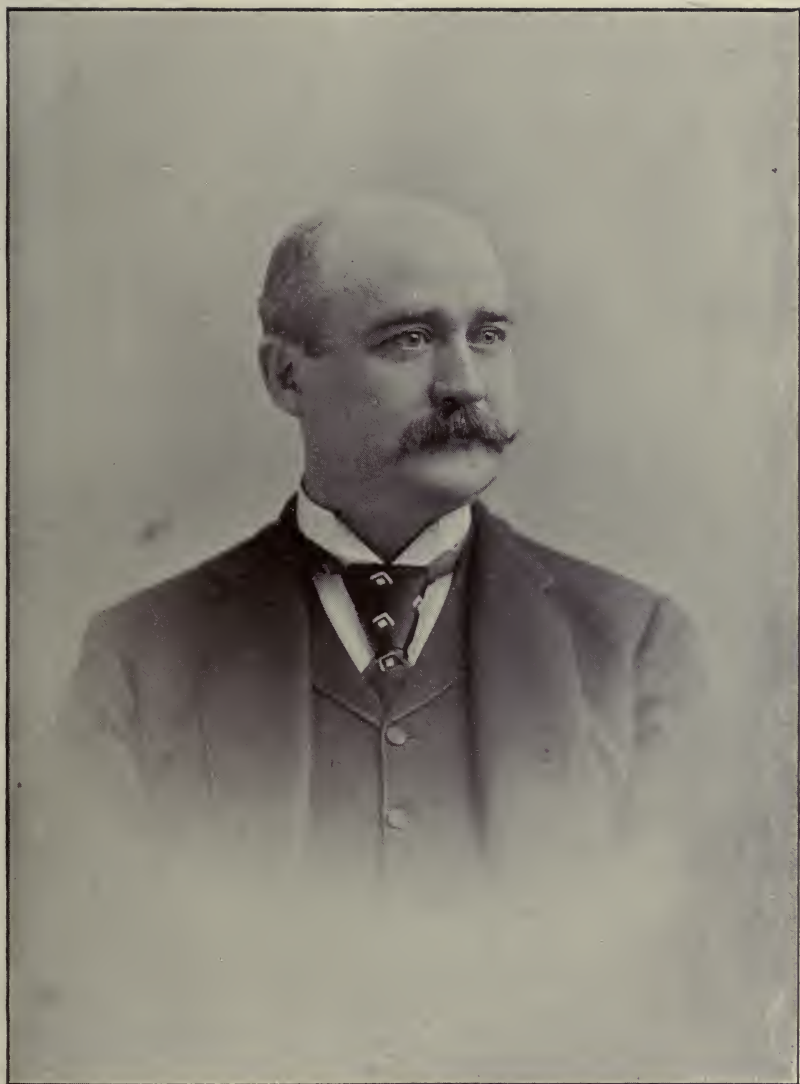








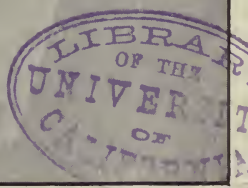
View on SOUTH BROAD STREET, looking north from residence of Hon. Edwin S. Stuart, Mayor.



HEAD OF THE CITY GOVERNMENT.  
EDWIN S. STUART,  
Mayor of the City of Philadelphia.







GUARDIANS OF THE PUBLIC MONEY OF THE CITY AND COUNTY OF PHILADELPHIA.  
THOMAS M. THOMPSON, City Controller.  
GEORGE D. MCCREARY, City Treasurer.  
CAPT. JOHN TAYLOR, Receiver of Taxes.







ED. W. PATTON



EDWARD MURRELL



WENCSEL HARTMAN  
PRES. COMMON COUNCIL



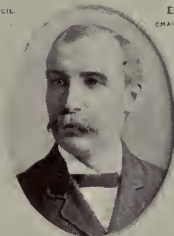
ELIAS P. SMITHERS  
CHAIRMAN OF COMMITTEE



JAMES L. MILES  
PRES. SELECT COUNCIL



JOHN E. HANFEN



WILLIAM McMURRAY



F. M. HARRIS



R. C. HÖRR



THOMAS J. ROSE



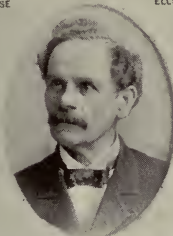
ELLSWORTH H. HULST



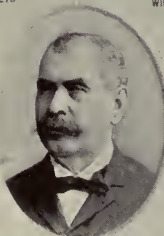
WILLIAM McMULLEN



GEO. W. KENDRICK, JR.



T. W. HAMMETT



PETER MORDE



JAMES R. GATES





EDW. A. ANDERSON



R. W. FINLETTER



CHARLES K. SMITH



WM. MCCOACH



THOMAS FIRTH



W. H. GARRETT



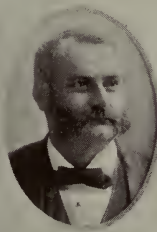
WILLIAM VAN OSTEN



THOMAS J. RYAN



JOSEPH H. BROWN



UELMA C. SMITH



JAMES B. ANDERSON



ISAAC D. HETZEL



AND. W. FALBEY



GED. W. KOCHERSPERBER  
SECRETARY



JAS. FRANKLIN  
SERGEANT-AT-ARMS



GEORGE E. VICKERS  
GENERAL AGENT





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CHAMBER OF SELECT COUNCIL OF PHILADELPHIA. Session April 11, 1893.



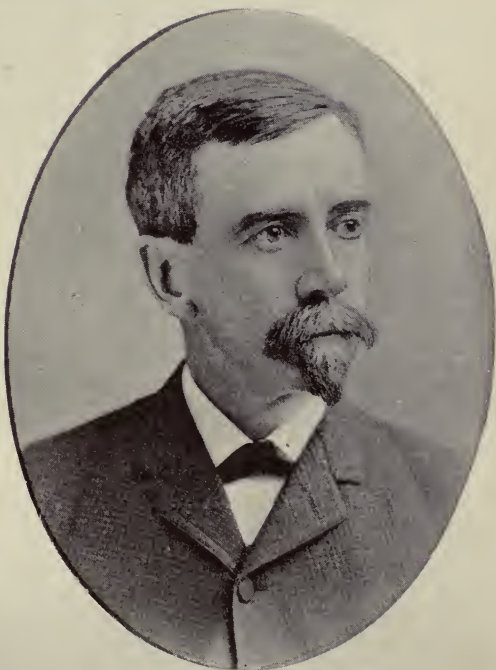
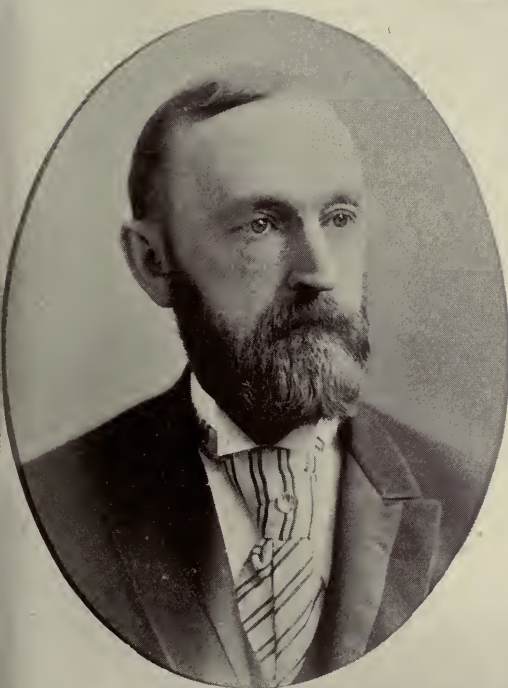


COMMON COUNCIL OF PHILADELPHIA. Session of April 11, 1893.









PENNSYLVANIA'S REPRESENTATIVES ON THE NATIONAL COLUMBIAN COMMISSION.  
 PETER A. B. WIDENER, Commissioner-at-large.  
 JOHN W. WOODSIDE, COL. R. BRUCE RICKETTS,  
 National Commissioners.



# SELECT COUNCIL.

FOR THE

YEAR COMMENCING FIRST MONDAY IN APRIL, 1893

JAMES L. MILES, President. \*

## WARDS.

1. PENROSE A. McCLAIN,  
1535 Moyamensing Avenue.
2. JAMES HAGAN,  
912 Christian Street.
3. † HARRY HUNTER,  
732 South Twelfth Street.
4. WILLIAM McMULLEN,  
631 South Ninth Street.
5. JAMES B. ANDERSON,  
204 W. Washington Square.
6. THOMAS J. RYAN,  
244 Crown Street.
7. SAMUEL F. HOUSEMAN,  
1411 Lombard Street.
8. THEODORE M. ETTING,  
Room 725, Drexel Building.
9. ROBERT R. BRINGHURST,  
38 North Eleventh Street.
10. F. A. BALLINGER,  
216 N. Thirteenth St.
11. WILLIAM P. BECKER,  
151 Fairmount Avenue.
12. FRANK SCHANZ,  
414 Green Street.
13. JAMES L. MILES,  
524 Walnut Street.
14. WILLIAM G. RUTHERFORD,  
670 Bankson Street.
15. FRANK A. GILBERT,  
1727 Fairmount Avenue.
16. HENRY CLAY,  
906 North Sixth Street.
17. CHARLES KITCHENMAN,  
322 Thompson Street.
18. ISAAC D. HETZELL,  
322 Richmond Street.
19. THOMAS J. ROSE,  
143 Susquehanna Avenue.
20. † WM. RODENHAUSEN,  
1445 Franklin Street.

## WARDS.

21. JOSEPH M. ADAMS,  
135 Seville Street, Manayunk.
  22. WM. F. BROWN,  
6249 North 27th St., Chestnut Hill.
  23. J. EMORY BYRAM,  
4645 Penn Street, Frankford.
  24. ‡ GEORGE W. KENDRICK, Jr.,  
3507 Baring Street.
  25. WILBUR F. SHORT,  
2915 Richmond Street.
  26. THOMAS B. McAVOY,  
1526 South Broad Street.
  27. EDWARD W. PATTON,  
3926 Walnut Street.
  28. WILLIAM McMURRAY,  
1845 Arch Street.
  29. JOHN E. HANIFEN,  
Thompson and Savery Streets.
  30. WILLIAM McCOACH,  
1607 Sansom Street.
  31. WATSON D. UPPERMAN,  
2359 E. Susquehanna Ave.
  32. FRANKLIN M. HARRIS,  
1611 Filbert Street.
  33. MILTON S. APPLE,  
2864 North Fifth Street.
  34. ¶ W. HARRY STIRLING,  
9 Strawberry Street.
  35. EDWARD MORRELL,  
505 Chestnut Street.
  36. HUGH BLACK,  
1133 South Twenty-fourth Street.
  37. CHAS. A. SCHAUFLEER,  
915 Dauphin Street.
- JOSEPH H. PAIST, Chief Clerk,  
1821 Mount Vernon Street.
- HENRY W. ROBERTSON, Assist. Clerk,  
1915 Market Street.
- JAMES FRANKLIN, Serg't-at-Arms,  
1523 Christian Street.

\* Succeeding James R. Gates, who retired April, 1893.

† Succeeding Peter Monroe, who retired April, 1893.

‡ Succeeding Thomas M. Hammett, who retired April, 1893.

¶ Succeeding John Morrisson, who retired April, 1893.

¶ Succeeding B. S. C. Thomas, who retired April, 1893.

# COMMON COUNCIL

FOR THE

Year Commencing First Monday in April, 1893.

WENCHEL HARTMAN, PRESIDENT.

## WARDS.

1. WILLIAM A. MILLER, 1819 South Fourth Street.  
JOHN M. STRATTON, 1645 Passyunk Avenue.  
JOSEPH P. PORTER, 1310 South Fourth Street.  
A. M. LOUDENSLAGER, 323 Grissom Street.  
JUDSON C. KRITH, 1827 South Seventh Street.  
ROBERT DENNY, 1426 South Sixth Street.  
SAMUEL L. KING, 921 Reed Street.
2. CHARLES F. ISEMINGER, 628 Federal Street.  
ANDREW W. PALDEY, 233 Federal Street.  
JOHN L. HAROLD, 917 Passyunk Avenue.
3. HIRAM BOWMAN, 801 South Fifth Street.
4. SAMUEL W. BAIZLEY, 117 Congress Street.
5. JOHN F. REIDENBACH, 127 Swanwick Street.  
CHARLES W. NAULTY, 255 Pine Street.
6. WILLIAM VAN OSTEN, 10 North Sixth Street.
7. CHARLES SEGER, 40 South Sixth Street.  
GEORGE H. WILSON, 1130 Lombard Street.  
ANDREW F. STEVENS, JR., 1345 Lombard Street. (1)
8. WENCHEL HARTMAN, 125 South Seventh Street.  
CHARLES Y. AUDENRIED, 505 Chestnut Street.
9. CHARLES ROBERTS, 1716 Arch Street.
10. NATHAN T. LEWIS, 222 North Ninth Street.  
BENNETT L. SMEDLEY, 2050 Vine Street.  
WILLIAM H. GARRETT, 146 North Thirteenth Street.
11. WILLIAM J. CARTER, 349 North Front Street.
12. WM. A. L. RIEGEL, M.D., 468 North Fourth Street. (2)
13. JAMES C. COLLINS, 327 North Front Street.  
ELLSWORTH H. HULTS, 863 North Seventh Street.
14. JOHN T. STAUFFER, 333 N. Twelfth Street.  
JOHN N. HORTON, 1318 Spring Garden Street. (3)
15. JOHN A. FOREPAUGH, 1333 Brown Street.  
USELMA C. SMITH, 707 Walnut Street.  
ALEXANDER COLVILLE, 528 North Twenty-second St.  
DAVID C. CLEAVER, 1825 Spring Garden Street.  
CHARLES L. BROWN, 523 Chestnut Street.
16. HENRY W. LAMBIRTH, 631 North Nineteenth Street. (4)  
JOSEPH F. SWOPE, 403 Girard Building. (4)
17. SAMUEL S. LOWENSTEIN, 944 North Fifth Street.  
CHARLES J. HAUGER, 1139 St. John Street.
18. JAMES E. McLAUGHLIN, 120 Oxford Street. (5)  
JACOB ROTH, 1318 Germantown Avenue.
19. JOSEPH H. STRAUB, 113 South Fifth Street.  
J. F. HENDERSON, 636 Hockley Street.  
WILLIAM ROWEN, 251 East Girard Avenue.  
AGNEW MacBRIDE, 401 Drexel Building.
20. THOMAS FIRTH, 123 Susquehanna Avenue.  
ROBERT MARKMANN, 2425 North Seventh Street.  
WILLIAM M. GEARY, 1926 North Third Street.  
G. EDW. SCHLEGELMILCH, 1714 Frankford Avenue.  
J. GORDON SHOWAKER, 2362 Fairhill Street. (6)  
EDWARD BUCHHOLZ, 2007 Germantown Avenue. (6)  
ROBT W. B. CORNELIUS, M. D., 2512 North Sixth Street.
21. A. ATWOOD GRACE, 523 Chestnut Street.  
CHARLES K. SMITH, 123 Arch Street.  
MORRIS M. CAVEROW, 970 Hutchinson Street.  
HARRY P. CROWELL, 1731 North Eighth Street.  
GEORGE HAWKES, 1508 North Seventh Street.  
GEORGE W. CONRAD, 1411 Franklin Street. (7)
22. WM. F. DIXON, 102 Leverington Ave., Manayunk.  
JOSIAH LINTON, 112 N. Front Street.
23. A. ELLWOOD JONES, 28 Sumas Street, Manayunk. (8)
24. THOMAS MEEHAN, Chew St. below Gorgas Ln., Gtn.  
GEORGE E. FORD, 927 Chestnut Street. (9)
25. JACOB J. SEEDS, 115 North Seventh Street.  
SAMUEL GOODMAN, 621 Chestnut Street.  
JOHN W. DAVIDSON, 4529 Rubicam Ave., Gtn. (10)

## WARDS.

23. WILLIAM HORROCKS, 4431 Frankford Avenue.  
JONATHAN HAERTER, 4535 Mulberry St., Frankford.
24. JAMES M. WEST, N. W. Cor. 4th & Chestnut Sts.  
PHILIP RUDOLPH, 306 North Fortieth Street.  
WILLIAM A. PORTER, 515 North Thirty-third Street.  
GUSTAV R. SCHAEFER, 288 Bullitt Building. (11)  
FREDERICK W. EGELING, Cor. Aspen & Brooklyn (11)  
JOHN McPARLAND, 622 Brooklyn Street.
25. WILLIAM R. KNIGHT, JR., 3555 Kensington Avenue.  
HUGH T. PIGOTT, 2756 Church St., Bridesburg.  
FREDERICK C. SIMON, 22 North Seventh Street.  
FRANKLIN REED, 3170 Richmond Street. (12)
26. EDWARD A. ANDERSON, 206 South Seventh Street.  
THOMAS HUNTER, M. D., 1500 Wharton Street.  
CHRISTOPHER C. BASTIAN, Passyunk Av. S. of 15th St.  
S. C. AIMA, 1604 S. Sixteenth Street. (13)
27. LEWIS W. MOORE, 108 South Fortieth Street.  
JOHN M. WALTON, 4205 Chester Avenue.  
J. WARNER GOEHEN, 227 South Sixth Street. (14)  
CHAS. E. CONNELL, 60th and Greenway Avenue.
28. HIRAM A. MILLER, 1609 Allegheny Avenue.  
JACOB T. ROSSELL, 408 North Third Street.  
Vacancy.  
GEORGE J. JEWELL, 2208 North Eighteenth Street. (15)  
FREDERICK STEHLE, 3426 Ridge Avenue. (15)
29. ELIAS P. SMITHERS, 219 South Sixth Street.  
JOHN L. BALDWIN, 1530 Shillman Street.  
WILLIAM B. SOUDER, 2410 Columbia Avenue.  
JOSEPH MARTIN, M. D., 2009 Columbia Avenue.  
CLAYTON M. HUNSICKER, 1842 Master Street.  
WILLIAM H. SHOEMAKER, 2033 North College Avenue.
30. WM. J. POLLOCK, 734 S. Seventeenth Street.  
JOHN IRVINE, 1538 South Street.  
WILLIAM H. WILSON, 2222 St. Alban's Place.
31. ROBERT S. LEITHFAD, 2024 Otis Street.  
JOHN PALLATT, 2301 E. Cumberland Street.  
WILLIAM C. HADDOCK, 2219 East York Street.  
GEORGE W. KNOLL, 2620 Carol Street.
32. WILLIAM H. JAMES, N. E. Cor. Fifth and Chestnut Sts.  
FREDERICK A. WHITE, M. D., 1812 N. 27th Street.  
ROBERT W. FINLETTER, 1937 N. Twelfth Street.  
NORRIS E. HENDERSON, 1929 North Twelfth St. (16)
33. R. C. HERR, 2728 North Broad Street.  
SAMUEL LAMOND, 433 East Somerset Street.  
JOHN STEWART, 2710 Fairhill Street.  
ARTHUR T. WADSWORTH, 922 West Cambria St. (17)
34. THOS. L. HICKS, 23 North Juniper Street.  
JOHN T. STRICKLAND, 303 North Sixty-fifth Street.
35. JOSEPH H. BROWN, Holmesburg.
36. JAMES BAWN, 1909 Federal Street.  
SAMUEL K. STINGER, 3124 Wharton Street.  
ARTHUR R. H. MORROW, 2038 Morris Street. (18)
37. JAMES B. WALLS, 2421 North Tenth Street.  
AUSTIN W. BENNETT, 1035 Dauphin Street. (19)

JOHN ECKSTEIN, Chief Clerk, 1505 Centennial Avenue.  
GEO. W. KOCHERSPERGER, Assistant Clerk, 1903 N. Eleventh Street.  
GAVIN NEILSON, Assistant Clerk, Mt. Pleasant Avenue, Germantown.  
W. H. FELTON, Assistant Clerk, 860 North Forty-second Street.  
GEORGE W. JOHNSON, Sergeant-at-Arms, 2312 Parrish Street

(1) Succeeding Andrew Kinkaid, who retired April, 1893. (2) Succeeding James H. Linn, who retired April, 1893. (3) Succeeding Samuel H. Fisher, who retired April, 1893. (4) Succeeding William E. Lindsley and Michael J. Fahy, who retired April, 1893. (5) Succeeding Sebastian Seiberlich, who retired April, 1893. (6) Succeeding William Deacon and Robert Ingram, who retired April, 1893. (7) Succeeding William Rodenhansen, who retired April, 1893. (8) Succeeding C. P. Carmany, who retired April, 1893. (9) Died, April, 1893. (10) Succeeding George B. Edwards, who retired April, 1893. (11) Succeeding George W. Kendrick and Wm. Griffith who retired April, 1893. (12) Succeeding Conrad S. Wilson, who retired April, 1893. (13) Succeeding A. J. Whittingham, who retired April, 1893. (14) Succeeding William M. Smith, who died, April, 1892. (15) Succeeding John D. Helus and Albert D. Wilson, who retired April, 1893. (16) Succeeding George Myers, who retired April, 1893. (17) Succeeding Nathan F. Tomlin, who retired April, 1893. (18) Succeeding Dr. C. W. Karsner, who retired April, 1893. (19) Succeeding Rudolph E. Rake, who retired April, 1893.



# PHILADELPHIA

THE STORY OF

## AN AMERICAN CITY

BY GEORGE EDWARD VICKERS

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ISSUED BY THE



## CITY OF PHILADELPHIA

UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE

JOINT SPECIAL COMMITTEE OF COUNCILS

ON

WORLD'S COLUMBIAN EXPOSITION

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PHILADELPHIA

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Chestnut St. below Fourth St. Place of meeting of First American Congress.





## PHILADELPHIA.

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### THE STORY OF AN AMERICAN CITY.

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#### CHAPTER I.

SOME FACTS CONCERNING THE EARLY HISTORY OF THE WESTERN CONTINENT—COLUMBUS AND HIS CONTEMPORARIES—THE EARLY NORSE EXPLORERS—THE INFLUX OF EMIGRANTS, ADVENTURERS, CAPITALISTS, AND THE RESULT.

**I**N the year eighteen hundred and ninety-two, the four hundredth anniversary of the discovery of the Western Continent by Columbus, the people of the American nation paused in their busy pursuit of varied avocations and began to take a look backward. The occasion and the circumstances under which the diversion was indulged were not untimely. The growth of the land in wealth and population during the preceding thirty years had been on a scale without precedent in any similar period since the beginning of its history. The long term of peace enjoyed by the country, commencing with the close of the Civil War in eighteen hundred and sixty-five, afforded opportunity for the development of its immense and varied resources. The vast territory, stretching from the Atlantic to the Pacific and from the frozen region of the St. Lawrence to the warm clime of the Mexican Gulf, had been spanned and girded by railways until every section of its enormous extent was not only easily accessible but available for the settlement of man.

So numerous and favorable were the means of rapid communication from one quarter of the continent to the other that in parts, hitherto remote and unsettled, cities had sprung up and become great in spaces of time so brief as to render their rise almost miraculous. The large area of land known to the older population of the States on the Atlantic coast as the Great West—a land of mystery, practically unexplored, and peopled by savages fifty years before—had succumbed to the swift march of civilization, and its numerous towns, with their



stupendous commercial interests, competed with the old cities of the East for the honor of superiority in the number of inhabitants as well as in material wealth. The total population of the country at this time, as ascertained by the census, was almost sixty-five million souls. Of its political divisions, consisting of forty-four States, six Territories and the District of Columbia, in which was located its capital, more than half the number, formerly composing the unsurveyed and unbroken West, had been admitted into the Union of States within fifty years.

The advent of railroads in the new land had given an unwonted stimulus to the progress of the people; and the new cities of the western portion of the country were hurried into being and then into full growth with a rapidity that left them without the usual experience or the memories of youth, thus adding to the map of the Republic, from time to time, towns unknown save to contemporaneous history, which, in some instances, aspired to a rivalry with renowned cities of the East, the advance and development of which were the work of centuries. That the new but quick-maturing cities were not disturbed by the prospect of standing in full stature before the eyes of famed and cultured towns invested with the prestige of the historic achievements and the social eminence of nine generations, but accepted without concern, the situation of their sudden evolution from the original settler's hut to a comparison in size and wealth with the oldest and proudest of their sisters, is a fact that loses its novelty in the consideration of the character of the people and of the condition of the times.

It may, perhaps, be regarded as not remarkable that the thoughts and modes of life of the citizens, especially in the newer section of the land, kept pace, in a measure, with the growth of their towns while not serving to render them unimpressionable on the subject of the country's past, nor to make it difficult to arouse in their minds a sense of the propriety of commemorating notable occurrences in its history. The spirit of universal consent in which the proposal to celebrate the event of the discovery was received throughout the nation illustrated the disposition, at least, of the race which, after a lapse of four centuries, found itself awakened to an unusual degree to the realization of its enjoyment of the heritage disclosed to civilization by the Italian navigator who, prompted by dreams of fame and affluence, had sailed westward in search of the unknown from the coast of Spain.

If the nation which owned the discoverer, as a native, or the country under whose auspices he set out on the eventful voyage, had either of them been accorded by the other powers of the earth the





INDEPENDENCE HALL, Chestnut St. below Sixth St.

Second place of meeting of American Congress, where the Declaration of Independence was signed.



undisputed privilege of possessing the Columbian land it would not in this day be peopled by a race speaking the tongue of the Anglo-Saxon and its four hundred years history would be more easily simplified. That the origin and character of the people comprehended by the United States of America are widely disconnected from those of the Roman and Hispanic would seem, in view of the exclusive representation of those nationalities in the person of the original voyager, to require explanation. The consideration of the fact, however, so familiar to the world, that the fruits of great discoveries, whether relating to the earth's physical system, to chemistry or to articles of general utility produced by man's inventive faculty, are sometimes enjoyed, not by the discoverer or his kindred, but by others in nowise responsible for their existence, may serve to suggest a reason why a people, other than those of the nation of Columbus or of the country of his later adoption, possess the most important and favored part of the continent supposed to have been first beheld by his eyes. That such supposition has stood the test of investigation by minds capable and disinterested, which have penetrated to a period of time five centuries before Columbus, it cannot be truthfully asserted; nor can it be affirmed that if Columbus had failed to make the memorable voyage which landed him at San Salvador in October, fourteen hundred and ninety-two, the new land would have been discovered before the close of the next century.

It is one of the grave conditions of a painstaking search for the truth of tradition that the mind knows not where it may rest secure in the conviction that the object of the quest has been discovered and that its light, hitherto obscure, illuminates the dark and silent prospect, revealing much that has been hidden, and correcting, on the part of the vital present, many erroneous impressions of the uncertain past. Through the halo of glory encircling the head of Columbus, the studious eye of history penetrates beyond the space of six hundred years and discerns in the uncertain mist the figure of Eric the Red in search of a shore once seen by a storm-tossed Icelandic sailor, which the Norseman finally reaches and names Greenland. The spirit of adventure and exploration which animated the discoverer of the ice-bound land was not uncommon in those of his race. With the image of the form of Eric looming from his ancient boat on the cold Northern sea and gazing with curious eyes on the strange shore of Greenland, in the year eight hundred and seventy-six, the mind is prepared to receive without surprise the next important view that arises through the mist of centuries from the procession of Discovery. Greenland had been known to man for one hundred and twenty-four years. Eric's fame as its dis-



coverer lived in the annals of Iceland and Norway. The land had been largely peopled by Icelanders, and even from far Norway came voyagers and settlers. The movement was downward, southward, toward the unknown continent that still slumbered in silence and mystery.

In the vast solitude of an age and clime, unrelieved by flashes of knowledge, or by the light of recorded history, the image of Bjorne, the Iclander, arises, his anxious eyes peering through the mist, as his vessel tosses on the inhospitable sea, in a vain gaze for the sight of that land, discovered by the famed Eric the Red, and on which now resides his father, who had emigrated from Iceland. The year was one thousand. The storm, which can be no stranger to Bjorne, rises and sweeps his vessel far beyond Greenland, until he comes within view of a country without snowy mountains, and which he soon discovers is not the place he seeks. He does not attempt to land, but turns his boat northward, anxious no doubt, in view of the fact that he has sailed far out of the way of the object of his search, and after bearing for three or four days in a northeasterly direction, he reaches his destination. But Greenland does not suit Bjorne, and after awhile he goes to Norway, the home of his youth. He tells about his voyage and the new land he saw. The curiosity of his friends is aroused. They wish to know something about it, but as he did not go on shore, he is unable to enlighten them. His failure to investigate, no doubt, causes Bjorne to fall considerably in the estimation of his acquaintances. Public sentiment favors the fitting out of an expedition which shall sail in search of the new country. Bjorne's friend, Leif Erikson, is so much impressed by what he hears, that he makes the recreant voyager an offer for his ship. Bjorne accepts, and Leif securing a crew sets sail for the unknown land. In the course of many days they reach a rocky island far to the southwest of Greenland. They name the strange place Helluland, which is destined after a lapse of five hundred years to be known as Newfoundland.

Their voyage does not end with the newly discovered shore. They remain some days and then sail southwest and reach another country, which they name Markland; a land destined to be known five centuries later as Nova Scotia. The success of the expedition will not allow their spirits to subside. Since passing the coast of Greenland they have discovered two new lands. Their efforts thus far have been rewarded. In the belief that they shall discover other countries and with expectations aroused to an excessive degree they again set sail with the prow of their ship still southward.

In the space of two days they are within sight of a land in appearance unlike the shores from which they recently departed. The climate is temperate, the air fragrant, and the vales and hills are covered with verdure. As they approach nearer, they behold a prospect which might alone have its similitude in the story of the Garden of Eden. Trees laden with fruit, and vines borne down with the wild grape in rich clusters, greet their wondering eyes. The abundance of the grape suggests to them a name and they call the place Vinland. They disembark and revel in the beauty and beneficence of the new land, so different from the cold, bleak hills of Norway. It is the season of autumn, and they decide to remain in the fragrant country until spring.

There is no record in detail of the experience during the winter, on the shore of the great new continent, of these early voyagers. The imagination alone may picture their delight at every new discovery in the animal and vegetable kingdom in the strange country. If the winter was severe, it was yet milder than the mildest in their own land, and they were doubtless amply provided with the skins and furs of beasts to preserve them from cold. They were likewise supplied with weapons, with which to slay beasts and fowl, and it is reasonably safe to assume they did not, during their entire sojourn on the strange coast, lack the chief of the necessities of life.

When they returned home in the following summer, all Norway rang with the news of their discovery. The stories of the new land, with its abundance of fruit growing wild, and the game running at large, had the effect which would be naturally expected. A fever of emigration seized a number of the people, including Leif Erikson's brother Thorwald. An expedition set out with Thorwald at its head, the party sailing from Norway in the year one thousand and two. In the course of time they reached Vinland, disembarked, and founded a settlement. The ship afterward returned to Norway. It is a grim commentary on the remorselessness of time, that although subsequent voyages were made by Norwegians, no trace of these adventurous settlers has been found, from the date of the departure of the ship which had carried them from their native land, down to this day.

The ancient Vinland is supposed to have been situated on what is now the coast of Rhode Island, near Newport, though some writers are disposed to believe its location was on the spot known as Martha's Vineyard, on the Massachusetts coast.

The return to Spain of Columbus after his first voyage and discovery of what may be termed the Southern gateway of the Western Continent, the Bahama Islands, five centuries after Leif Erikson had



beheld its Northern coast, resulted in stirring up the adventurous spirits of Europe. The Southern countries especially were prolific in the production of explorers who, actuated by various motives, set out with one or more ships for the new world. Not alone Spain, but Portugal, Italy and France participated in the benefits of the discovery and added their quota to the expeditions that spread over the smooth expanse of the Southern sea. It remained, however, for a land in the North to act more promptly than others in taking advantage of information derived from the Columbian event. This country was England. Henry VII was on the throne and the nation had begun to recover from the devastating effects of the bloody series of Wars of the Roses. Five years after Columbus had landed on the islands off the Southern portion of the Continent, or in fourteen hundred and ninety-seven, the English monarch sent out John and Sebastian Cabot with two ships and a considerable party also on a voyage of discovery.

Up to this time Columbus and all Southern Europe reposed under the impression that the newly discovered country was a portion of India. It was in the hope of reaching that land of storied wealth by a short route that Columbus had originally set out from Spain. When he arrived at the islands on his first voyage, the spirit of elation and thanksgiving which he is reported to have displayed was due to the belief that he had reached the Western shore of India. The several natives whom he had persuaded to accompany him to Spain were at once called Indians and by that name the original occupants of the new continent have been known ever since.

The Cabots took a Northward course, and after sailing for many days through icebergs they reached the coast of what is now known as Labrador. While there was doubtless little in the inhospitable snow-covered hills of that dreary land to command admiration they experienced the satisfaction of recording their first discovery and continued their exploration. They next sighted the shores of what appears on the map of North America as Newfoundland. After familiarizing themselves with the peculiarities of the new lands and their products and inducing several of the natives to accompany them, they sailed for England, taking with them also specimens of animals and fowl captured on the strange shores.

One year after the Cabots had discovered the northern coast, Columbus sailed for the third time westward. On his second voyage, he had revisited the islands previously discovered, including those designated on the charts of to-day as Hayti, San Domingo, and Cuba. With reference to the first named of the group, a melancholy revelation

had awaited him. One of his ships having been wrecked on the first voyage, he left its crew, consisting of thirty-five persons, as a colony in possession of the island, which he had named Hispaniola, and when he returned, it was found all had been slain by the natives, whose anger they had provoked by their injustice and cruelty. That he had been shocked and distressed by the news, it may be justly imagined in view of the impulsive temperament of the man, and of the undoubtedly fine sensibilities of his nature. The third and most momentous of his expeditions found him with more experience with the climate, the latitude and the natives, and less disposed to tarry among the islands already taken possession of in the name of the sovereigns of Spain. He sailed southwest, still resting under the delusion that he had reached the western coast of India. To a mind imbued with the spirit of modern times, having in view the methods in use for the quick dispatch of business, the rapid adaptation of means to ends, and the readiness of men to seize and possess themselves of things of worldly value to which the consideration of priority of right may justify their claim, even though the worth of what they strive for may not attain to that of an entire continent, it would appear singular that six years had been allowed to pass, and three voyages had been made, before the discoverer and the nation which supported his undertaking ascertained the stupendous truth, that the numerous islands disclosed to their eyes had no connection with India, and that a few leagues further west lay the greatest of the continents of the world. The result of this third voyage was the discovery of the main land of the new country at the mouth of the Orinoco River in South America, on the coast of what is now Venezuela.

In the meanwhile, the English voyagers, the Cabots, had been more successful in the space of time employed, if not more enterprising. Their first voyage had resulted in the discovery of the continent itself, at its northern coast, or in its rediscovery, since they had followed the course of the hardy Norwegians under Leif Erikson, five hundred years before. They had returned to their native clime with the story of their voyage, its products and its results before Columbus descried the lower portion of the continent, and prior to the astounding revelation, to the people of Southern Europe especially, that the strange land was not India, but a new world hitherto unknown to Eastern civilization.

The return of the Cabots to England and the arrival subsequently of Columbus in Spain from his third voyage, with its momentous results were sufficient to excite and dazzle Europe. Thenceforth for more than one hundred years, history presents the spectacle of an

unbroken procession of explorers, adventurers, capitalists, and royally commissioned agents pouring into the new land, and taking their ways in many and various directions. Up great rivers, through unbroken wilds, across rugged mountains, around vast lakes and over barriers seemingly impenetrable, daring men made their journeys, fighting peaceable natives and perpetrating upon them glaring atrocities in some cases; assailed and massacred by the original possessors of the soil in others; one expedition plundering and murdering the red men; another seeking to pacify and to convert them to the religion of the Roman Church; one band with prayer book and the offerings of peace; the other with sword and torch and the ever ready proclamation of indiscriminate war.

From the swift influx into the new land with its hapless people, of civilization with its benefits and its evils, the mind may digress long enough to note a touch of human nature in connection with an incident that led to an important development. Among the early emigrants from Spain, who sought to improve their condition on the isles discovered by Columbus on his first voyage, was Nunez de Balboa. He landed at Hispaniola and began life there in a small way as a farmer. The venture proved unfortunate, the emigrant farmer becoming involved in debt. With creditors about him, and the spectacle of a Spanish dungeon before his eyes, the bankrupt induced some sympathizing friends to hide him in a hogshead, label it "victuals," and place it on board a ship bound for the Gulf of Mexico. When the vessel was at sea, beyond the reach of the money lenders, the fugitive pushed the lightly fastened head from the cask, and rose before captain and crew a towering, living, human form, much to their astonishment, and, as history records, not a little to their fright. He reached the Isthmus of Darien, now Panama, where he landed, and having made himself agreeable to the Indians, married a Princess of one of the tribes and thereby became rich in gold and silver, a condition doubtless not unwelcome after his experience at Hispaniola.

In the course of time he heard the natives speak of a great ocean to the west, and being of a roving disposition, and perhaps fired with a zeal to distinguish himself by some important discovery, he set out with a large expedition, and after many hardships, reached a point from which was spread before his wondering eyes the vast Pacific. In the true spirit of the explorer of the day, he called upon the members of his party to witness that he took possession of the ocean in the name of the King and Queen of Spain. This was in fifteen hundred and thirteen, or fifteen years after the third voyage of Columbus, which had resulted in the discovery of the main body of the continent.





House No. 239 Arch St., where the first American flag was made by Mrs. BETSY ROSS, in 1777.  
The flag was adopted by Congress June 14, 1777.





If Columbus, whose zeal and spirit had been summoned to undergo a test almost superhuman, prior to the success of his efforts to even secure some slight consideration of the project which resulted in the discovery of an entire hemisphere, had possessed a nature less benevolent and simple, it is probable he would have died amidst riches and luxury, and been borne to the tomb with the honors befitting his genius, and the inestimable value of his services to Spain and to the world, instead of departing his life in exile and poverty, with his remains fated to find a resting place, through the beneficence of charity, on one of the islands which his enterprise and his patience had added to the immensely increased dominion of the Spaniard. In the rush into the new land of adventurers and of the more favored representatives of the power of Spain, followed speedily by the discovery of wealth in gold and silver, in abundance and value almost beyond the power of man to compute, and without parallel in the history of the world, the figure of the original voyager was lost, and his acts for a time obscured by the magnificence of the shining riches which usurped his place in the mind of mankind. It would perhaps be accepted as a measure of satisfaction if history could record that the land which his patience and fortitude revealed to civilization, had honored his achievement by adopting his name, but even this slight solace to the memory of one who died a victim of monstrous ingratitude was denied. In the year fourteen hundred and ninety-nine, one year after Columbus had made his third voyage and discovered the main body of the country, a clever Florentine, Amerigo Vespucci, paid a visit to what is in this day the shore of South America, and returning home, published a description of the new land and also a map of the coast. He was the first person in Europe, according to contemporaneous authority, to express the belief that the strange territory was not a portion of Asia, but a separate continent. This view of the subject turned the tide of opinion in the old world, and its truth having been soon verified, the name of Amerigo in connection with the Columbian land supplanted in the minds of the Europeans that of Columbus itself.

During the entire period embracing the three voyages of Columbus to the new World, the mind may contemplate with satisfaction the character of the man, his abstinence from excesses, his toleration in dealing with his men, and the moderation displayed in his treatment of the natives. It is recorded that when he and his companions landed among the strangers on the occasion of his first voyage, the simple-minded men of the islands fell down and worshipped them, and by various manifestations made known the fact that they regarded them

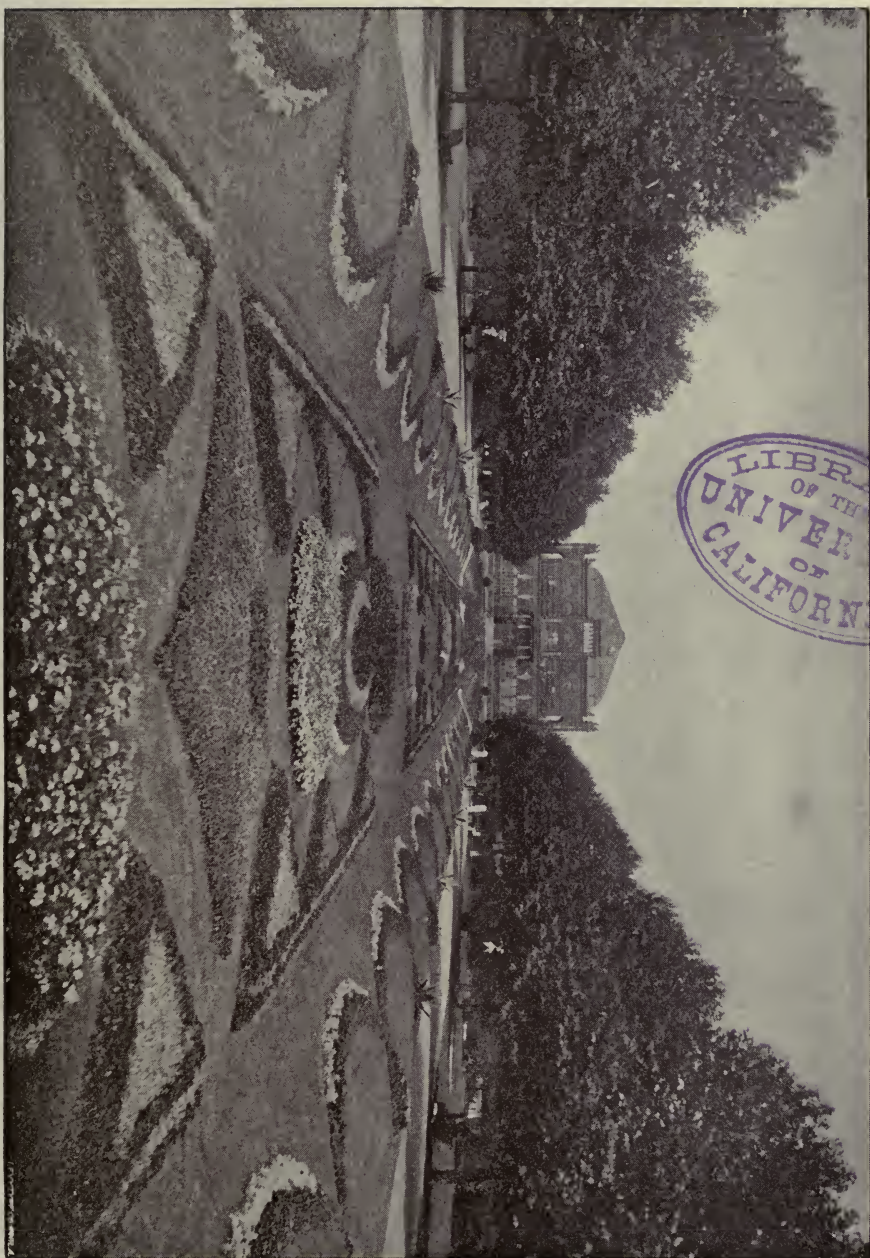
as superior beings. There is no act of record in the life of Columbus that would give rise to the supposition that his course was ever different from that which evoked the admiration and homage of the native possessors of the soil. In his disappearance from the scene of action and temporary effacement from the minds of men, there appears to be neither time nor opportunity to realize the importance of his services, nor the shame upon a nation incurred by the neglect of their recognition, much less to draw contrasts between his conduct and that of his successors who hastened to the shores which his enterprise had disclosed to the knowledge of his kind.

From the mild and gentle character of the discoverer, with his enlightened and considerate methods in dealing with the natives, the mind recoils at the contrast presented by the blood-stained monster, Cortez. This ruthless destroyer of a nation of enlightened, industrious and inoffensive people, sailed from Spain with six hundred soldiers in the year fifteen hundred and nineteen, twenty-two years after Columbus had made his third voyage, and landing on the coast of the land now known as Central America, invaded the country of the Aztecs, the ancient site of Mexico. The hitherto happy and contented people received the foreigners hospitably, provided for their wants, and by their docile, submissive spirit should have won the friendship and protection of the barbarous chief of the Spaniards. Cortez, however, had entered their land for spoils. The gold and silver they possessed were a sufficient incentive to the perpetration of massacre, and after displaying a spirit of benevolence which completely disarmed their innocent natures, he was conducted with his men to the capital of the nation, the predecessor of the present City of Mexico, and presented to the Aztec King. The courtesy and hospitality with which the Spaniards were treated appeared to meet with proper appreciation for a space of time sufficient to enable them to perfect their plans, upon which the King was murdered, hundreds of his people slaughtered, and the remainder only saved by flight to the fastnesses of the mountains, where their barbarous assailants could not follow them. Cortez then plundered the city, taking all the gold and silver to be found, and formally possessed himself of the country of the Aztecs in the name of the King of Spain.

The example set by this butcher and robber was worthily imitated nine years later by Francis Pizarro. With a band of Spanish soldiers he invaded Peru, and finding there a peaceful, intelligent race of people ruled by Kings or Incas, he put thousands of them to the sword, killed the King himself, and seized the land and untold quantities of gold and silver, in the name of the Sovereign of that same nation which



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UNIVERSITY  
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CALIFORNIA



THE PARTERRE, HORTICULTURAL HALL, FAIRMOUNT PARK.





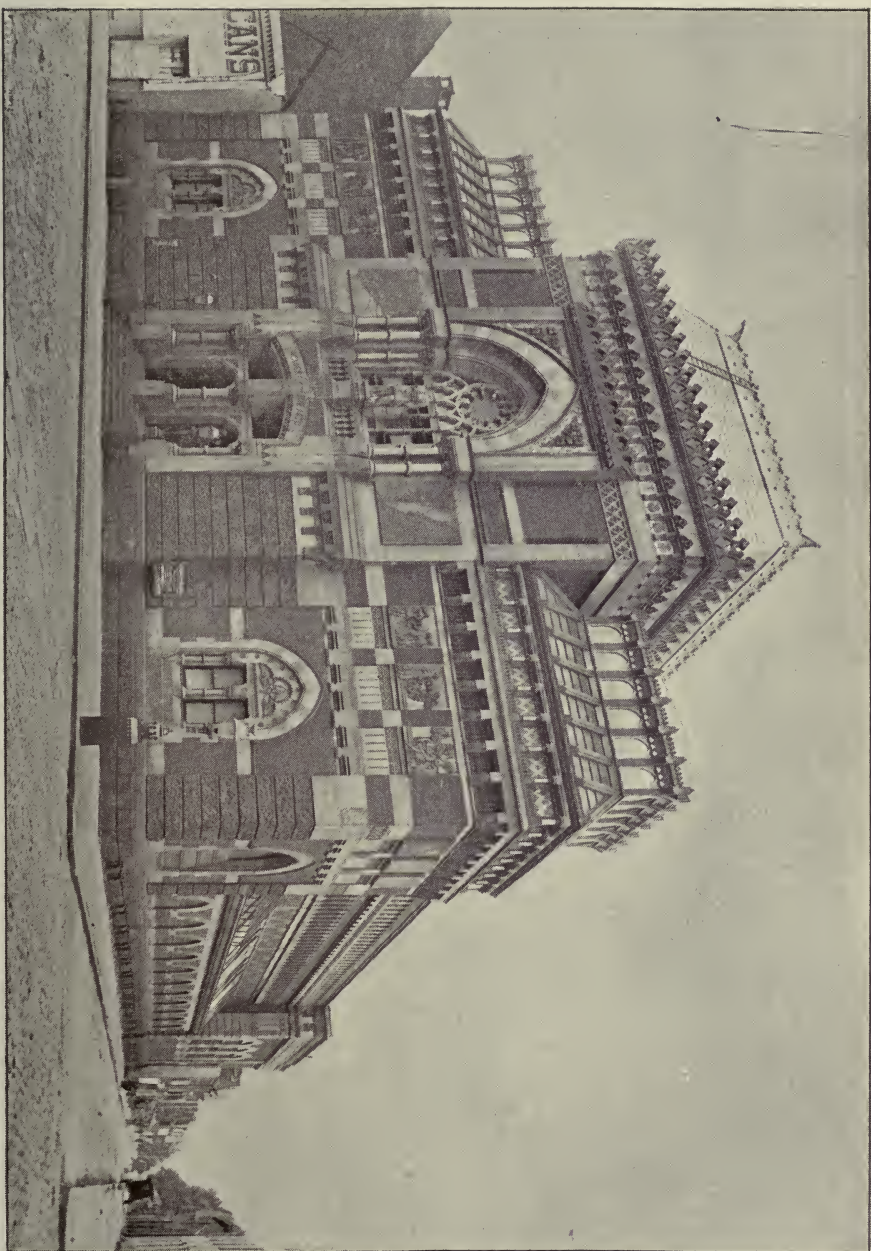
produced the bloody Cortez. These ancient people were further advanced in the arts and sciences and in government than any other of the races discovered by the Europeans on the new continent. They had cities, temples of worship, gardens and cultivated farms, the pursuit of husbandry being attended by intelligent methods, especially in the matter of the irrigation of the soil and in the care of its products. Their skill in the manufacture and decoration of pottery remains to this day reasonable cause for astonishment on the part of civilization, which seeks in vain for the source of their art, as well as for the derivation of their race. How long they had lived in peace and contentment, worshipping in their temples, observing obedience to their laws or customs, free from the influence of the more complex civilization before the Spaniards came upon them and with a savagery that finds few instances to equal it in the world, destroyed their homes, laid waste their lands, pillaged their towns and murdered their rulers, remains a mystery to this hour.

If any doubt existed as to the purely mercenary object of the invaders or on the question of the appalling cruelty of their character, it would be in all probability speedily dispelled by the reflection that although a body of six hundred men accompanied Cortez on his expedition against the Aztecs of ancient Mexico, and a following almost equal in number was led by Pizarro in his invasion and conquest of Peru, there is not in existence at this day out of the entire quota, a single recital tending to show the habits, the customs, or the manners of the people whose hospitality they enjoyed, and whose routine of life and domestic economy were so fully open to their judgment and observation. The world might in a degree mitigate its censure upon the merciless acts of these blood-stained Spaniards, if there remained any trace of a redeeming feature in the nature of their expeditions, any evidence of a reluctance on their part toward resorting to the deeds of infamy which stand in their name, or of some slight disposition among them to pause in their fierce pursuit after gold to note and retain for the benefit of civilization, the modes of life and the peculiar characteristics of the innocent, but ancient people, their contact with whom afforded such rare opportunity for obtaining some clue to their age and origin. Columbus on his return from his first voyage carried with him several of the natives of the newly discovered islands, treated them kindly, and presented them before the Sovereigns of Spain. That Cortez or Pizarro evinced the slightest interest in the history or in the character of the unfortunate race which their barbarities exterminated, there remains not the faintest evidence, but in grim contrast there ex-

ists an abundance of proof to establish them and their followers in the eyes of posterity as atrocious murderers actuated from the beginning to the ending of their exploits by the absorbing passion for gold.

From these darkest of all the expeditions of pillage and bloodshed that disturb the prospect in connection with the early dawn of knowledge of the extent and character of the strange continent, the mind may turn to new and striking scenes occurring not on what were destined in later centuries to be known as the lands of Central and South America, but on the soil of what came to be known as the nation of the American United States. Twenty years after the invasion of Mexico by Cortez, and eight years subsequent to the conquest of Peru by Pizarro, a companion of the latter in his expedition against the Aztecs, Ferdinand de Soto, set out under a royal commission from Spain, with a band of six hundred men, the splendor and richness of whose equipment were well calculated to dazzle the eyes of the natives, whose lands and possessions in silver and gold were the prospective prize. His destination was the vast peninsula discovered seventeen years before, or in the year fifteen hundred and twelve, by an expedition of Spaniards under Ponce de Leon, an old soldier and former companion of Columbus, named by the veteran Columbian leader, Florida. Ponce de Leon, who appears to have possessed all the gentle and considerate qualities of nature which characterized Columbus, his former chief, had been deeply impressed by the beauty of the country. Entering upon the undisturbed wilds of its vast territory in the season of Spring, he and his companions were treated to the delightful spectacle of flowering shrubs and vines in such profusion and variety that the eye was dazzled, and the brain became fairly intoxicated with the perfume that was everywhere wafted upon their senses by the languid air. Not in the flagrant bloom of the earthly paradise alone did the charmed Spaniards revel and felicitate, but across their vision continually flitted bright winged birds in numbers and variety unlike anything their eyes had ever beheld. The wild natives of the flowery land treated the strangers kindly, and true to the example set by Columbus in the first instance on his voyage of discovery, their confidence and their hospitality were not abused by the members of the expedition under Ponce de Leon. In the feeling of exaltation and unalloyed delight experienced by the Spanish chief, it is not difficult to realize the plausibility of the story that he was led to believe there existed somewhere in the beautiful land a fountain whose waters possessed the virtue of restoring youth to the aged, and that he and his followers searched





ACADEMY OF THE FINE ARTS, Broad St. above Arch St.





long and earnestly for the magic spring and returned to their native land keenly disappointed over their failure to discover its location.

The character of the man who now, after a lapse of seventeen years, sailed from Spain with a powerful and splendidly caparisoned band of followers for the land first revealed to Ponce de Leon, was somewhat different from that of the veteran companion of Columbus. His expedition included priests with the emblems of the church and blacksmiths with ample means for providing shoes for the horses of the soldiers, and for repairing and sharpening their weapons. They likewise brought with them a herd of swine with which to furnish subsistence in the strange and untried land.

The party reached Tampa Bay on the west coast of the Peninsula in the year fifteen hundred and thirty-nine. De Soto made no effort to conceal to the minds of the natives the fact that he came among them for conquest. The gay plumes, shining armor and gorgeous banners of the soldiers and the high floating image of the cross carried by the priests in their sable garbs must have produced a remarkable effect upon the simple-minded savages who were numerous on every hand. They met the Spaniards at first in a spirit of submission and awe and offered to worship them. The stern de Soto with his eyes bent solely on discovery and conquest did not delude them, but commanded them to "pray only to God in Heaven." True to his training under the blood-stained Pizarro, the Spanish leader treated the natives with the greatest cruelty. Many were killed, their villages burned and their possessions, when they were of value, taken by the ruthless hands of the soldiers. The acts of de Soto soon aroused the hostility of the natives. The expedition finally reached the section of country now embraced in the State of Alabama, and on the site of the present City of Mobile a battle was fought with the Indians, which proved most disastrous to the natives. Eighteen Spaniards were killed and the number of natives slain was upward of two thousand five hundred. The event occurred in the year fifteen hundred and forty.

The adventurers pressed on in the direction of northwest, seeking for gold and silver and failing to find any. In the year fifteen hundred and forty-one they came to the broad Mississippi, and there de Soto recorded the discovery of what proved to be the largest river in the world. He did not survive to enjoy the honor of conveying the news of his achievement to Spain, but was seized with a fever, the result of enfeebled health arising from worry and disappointment over the failure of cherished expectations in connection with his search for gold, and in a few days expired on the bank of the great stream. His companions, after

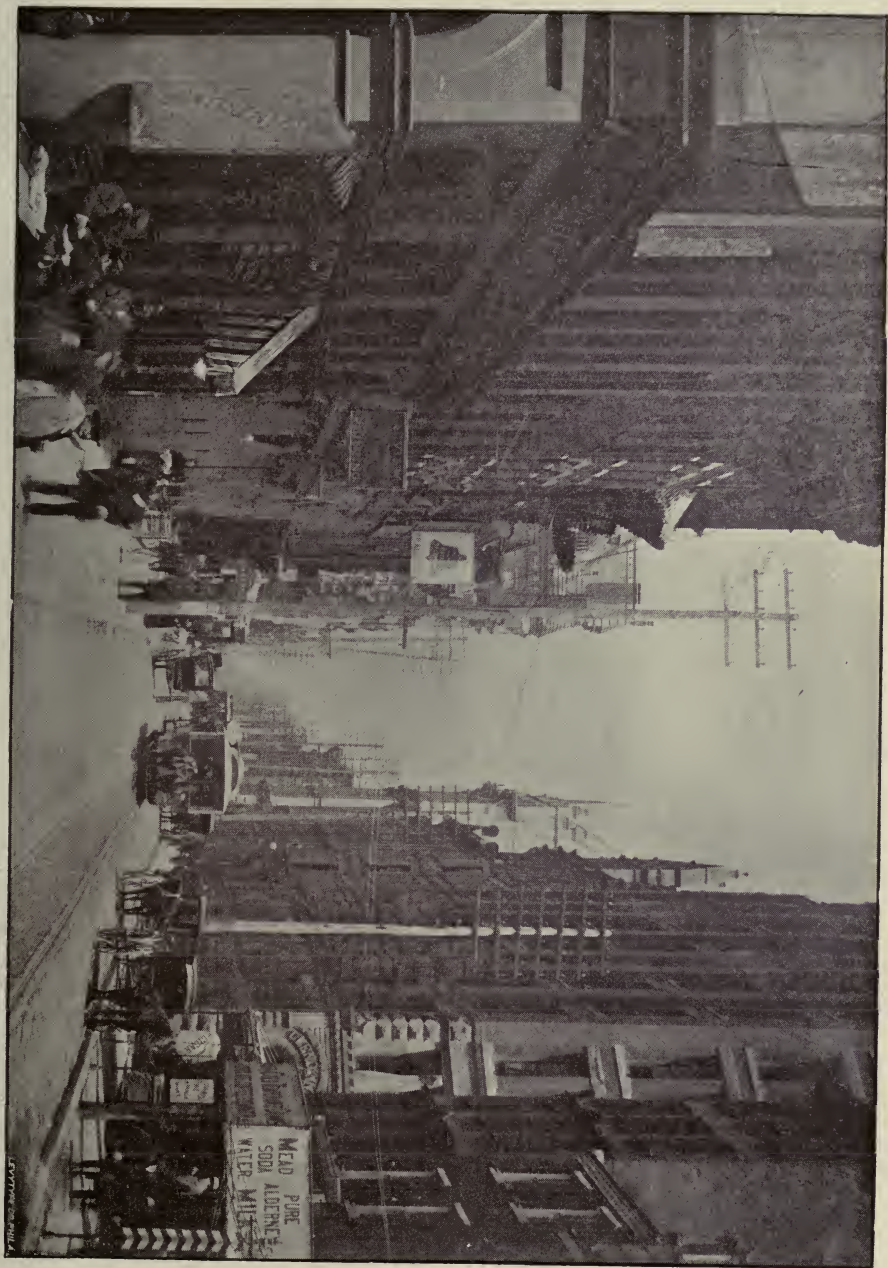
the solemn rites of the church had been performed over his remains, wrapped his mantle about him, and taking the body out to the middle of the river, sunk it in the unsounded depths that it might not fall into the hands of the Indians.

There are few things in the history of the Western Continent more impressive or tragic than the melancholy ending of the great expedition of de Soto. The high expectation and the pride of Spain were centred in the undertaking. Cortez in Mexico and Pizarro in Peru had found gold and silver in quantity almost fabulous, and for years the Spanish ships groaned with the weight of the precious metals which were transferred from the ownership of an inoffensive and once happy people to the gaping coffers of the Spaniards. De Soto had feasted his eyes on the untold wealth of shining metal in Peru, and doubtless acquired the notion that other and equally rich races or communities of people were to be found all over the vast area of the New World. That others, including the rulers of Spain, were possessed of the same idea there can be no reasonable ground for doubt. The previous discoveries had dazzled their eyes and intoxicated their senses. Nothing in the shape of an expedition to the new country was too rash to propose or too expensive to undertake. The trappings of wealth and the emblems of grandeur and power which characterized the array of de Soto were evidence of the gracious favor in which he and his object were held by the Spanish crown. That the prayers of the accompanying priests were at once a solace to their misfortunes and an incentive to their hopes there can be no question; nor can it be doubted that, after weary months of journeying through seemingly endless wilds, encountering wondering natives destitute of the riches which the eager hunters sought, the Spaniards became irritable, and were only too prone to perpetrate upon the innocent objects of their disappointment the atrocities which everywhere mark their progress from Tampa Bay to the eastern shore of the great river, where their leader yielded up his life and whose waters received his mortal remains.

The death of de Soto occurred in the year fifteen hundred and forty-two, or three years after his departure from Spain. His unfortunate companions, long since discouraged and no more deluded by the expectation of finding gold, thought only of their native land and of how they could best get out of the accursed country. They crossed the river, well knowing it would be death to all to return by the way they came, since they had committed so many acts of cruelty upon the natives, and after wandering for months through trackless forest and enduring almost incredible hardships, they finally reached the plains of



FOURTH STREET, looking north from Walnut Street.





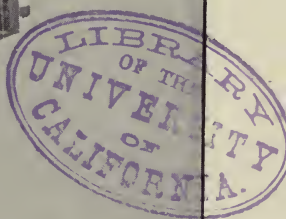
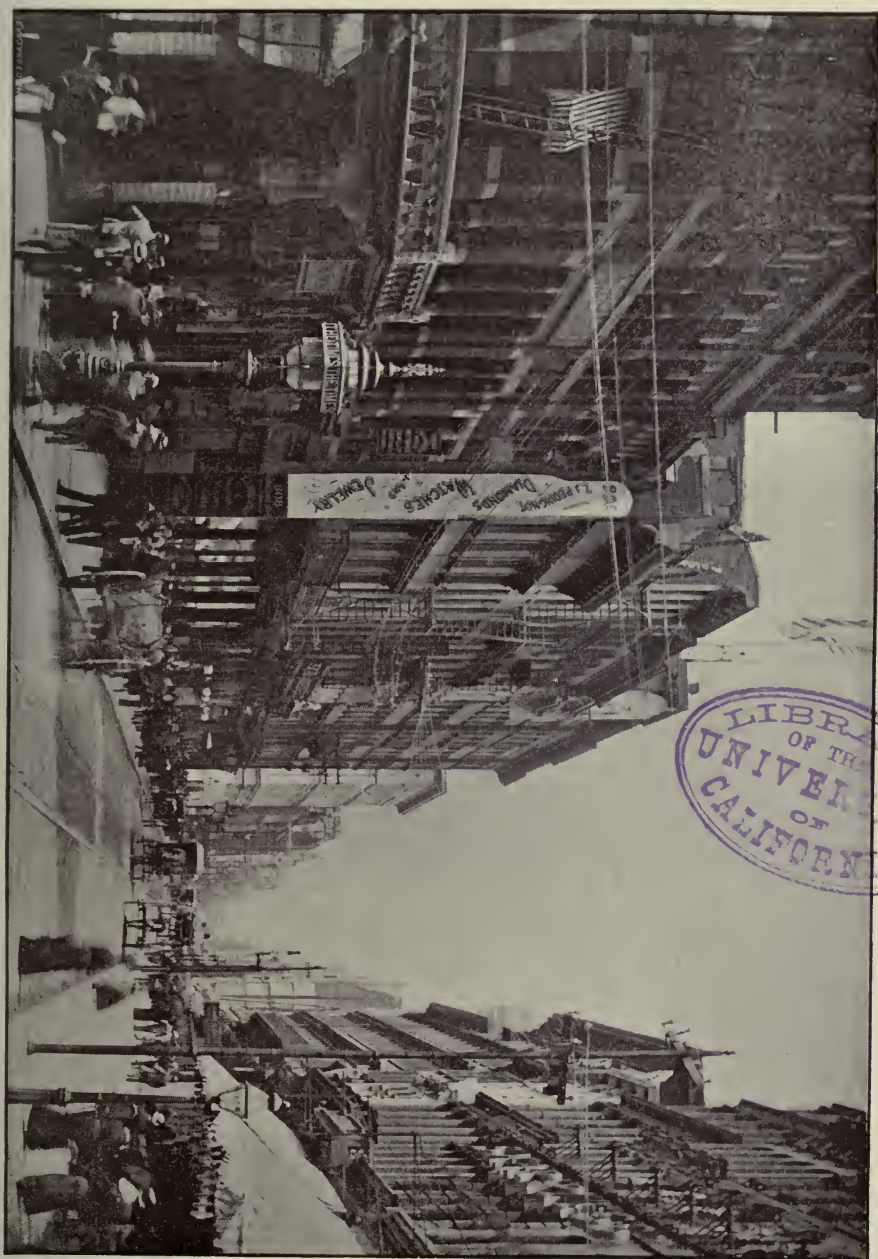


what is now the vast state of Texas. Disheartened, broken in health and with little hope of seeing ever again their homes in Spain, they turned in a northeasterly direction and after many weeks of travel through swamp and jungle and unbroken wilds, they came once again to the shore of the great Mississippi. With fervent thankfulness and renewed hope they set to work, constructed boats, embarked on the rapid, unknown river and after many perils reached the coast of Mexico and ultimately the West Indias, the party numbering about one-half the band which had set out from Spain three years before with such bright dreams of conquest and glory in connection with their invasion of the new land in which their leader had found not gold and silver, but an unknown grave.





CHESTNUT STREET, looking west from Fifth Street.







## CHAPTER II.

ENTERPRISE OF THE FRENCH IN THE NEW LAND—EXPEDITIONS OF VERRAZANI AND CARTIER—SECOND VOYAGE OF SEBASTIAN CABOT—DISCOVERY OF THE ST. LAWRENCE—FRANCE FORMS THE FIRST COLONY IN THE NEW COUNTRY WHICH PROVES TEMPORARY—MASSACRE OF FRENCH SETTLERS BY THE SPANIARDS—THE ACT AVENGED BY THE FRENCH.

IN the process of colonization experienced by the new land during the period of one hundred and ninety years, or from the time of the first voyage of Columbus until the date of the founding of Philadelphia, the methods and the traits of the several enlightened nations of the Old World were illustrated with unusual clearness and force. The attempts in the earlier instances to form settlements and the failures were not confined to any single nationality,—the Spanish, the French, the English, the Dutch, and the Swedes alike encountering obstacles and suffering misfortunes of a grave and discouraging nature. The Spaniards, at the outset, were favored with the distracting and pleasing experience of having spread before their eyes and placed within the ready grasp of their power the immense treasure of Mexico and Peru, and such ideas and plans as they may have previously entertained in connection with the forming of colonies and the establishing of their authority in the vast territory that began with the peninsula of Florida, were supplanted for a number of years by the occupation, more immediately profitable, of unearthing and transporting gold and silver in untold quantities to the shores of Spain. In the glare of the suddenly discovered riches and in the felicity of realizations beyond the scope of their previous imagination, they lost sight of the importance of continuing the exploration of the new world and of insuring for the Spanish crown the great area of land reaching from the Mexican Gulf northward to the cliffs of Maine; a land which they could, without difficulty, have seized and possessed, notwithstanding the fact that other nations of Europe were at this time sending expeditions to different points on the coast of North America. The Spaniards claimed, it is true, the entire region of Florida, on the inviting shore of which Ponce de Leon had first laid eyes in fifteen hundred and twelve, seven years before the invasion of Mexico by Cortez. The return of the old Spanish chief to his native clime and the lapse of several years had not sufficed to extinguish in his mind the yearning to live over again the delightful

experience of his first visit to the fragrant land, and he finally came back at the head of a company with the pleasant expectation of founding a colony. The cruelty of some of his countrymen who had visited the coast a short time before his arrival, and seized a number of the natives and carried them to San Domingo where they were sold into slavery, had changed the disposition of the red men, and, to the surprise and dismay of the old Columbian voyager, instead of finding himself and his party received with the friendliness and hospitality of former years, they were confronted by a band of fierce and determined warriors, and compelled to fight for their lives. In that battle Ponce de Leon and almost all his companions were killed. This disaster had a discouraging effect on the purpose of Spain, and no further effort was made to establish the power of the crown in the new land until the time of the arrival of de Soto at Tampa Bay in fifteen hundred and thirty-nine. The tragic end of this chief and the failure of his expedition had left the Spaniards forty-seven years after the first expedition of Columbus without a permanent foothold anywhere on the soil of North America.

In the meantime, while the Spanish ships were employed carrying gold and silver from Mexico and Peru to enrich the kingdom of Spain, a formidable rival was steadily acquiring a lodgment on the new continent. The power and the interests of France demanded a share of its vast territory; and in the year fifteen hundred and twenty-four Verrazani, a Florentine captain, sailed from the country of the French with an expedition consisting of four ships and several hundred men, with authority from Francis I. to explore in the strange land. Arriving off the shore of Florida, he proceeded in a leisurely way to familiarize himself with the coast of all the country northward. His voyage extended to Labrador, and was attended by some remarkable discoveries. It is recorded that off the coast of what is now New Jersey one of his sailors undertook to swim ashore, but upon his close approach he found the bank thronged with wondering natives, and, in his endeavor to return, he became exhausted, and was tossed on the beach in a state of unconsciousness. The red men revived him, treated him kindly, and allowed him to return to his ship. His account of the people aroused the curiosity of Verrazani, who presently visited the shore in person, and was received with friendliness and hospitality by the Indians, with whom he spent some time trafficking and gathering knowledge of the country. When he sailed away he rewarded their confidence and good offices by stealing and carrying off a native child. Ignoring the pretensions of the Spaniards who claimed the whole of the new country without having seen any portion of its coast beyond Florida, the com-



MRS. BETSY ROSS,  
who designed and made the first American flag, in Philadelphia, in 1777.





mander of the first French expedition formally took possession of the entire land, north of the region discovered by Ponce de Leon, in the name of the sovereign of France.

The voyage of Verrazani and its results were hailed as a great achievement in France, and served to further stimulate the French in their desire to confirm in a practical way their claim to the greater portion of the distant country. Domestic troubles engrossed the attention of the government, however, and prevented the immediate fitting out of a second expedition. The tardiness of the Spaniards, whose interest was wholly absorbed in the riches of Mexico, precluded the possibility of interference from that quarter with the plans of the French, who could, without opposition, have established their power substantially along the vast stretch of coast from the northern boundary of Florida to Labrador. The English, who had sent the Cabots to the new land in the year fourteen hundred and ninety-seven, when they discovered Labrador and New Foundland, had shown no disposition up to the time of Verrazani, and for a period long subsequent to the expedition of the French under that leader, to enforce any claim or to extend their power in the new country. That they had not lost sight of the probability of the arrival in the future of an opportunity to assert themselves on the Western continent, was evident from the fact that Sebastian Cabot, in the year fifteen hundred and eighteen, twenty years after his first voyage to Labrador and six years prior to the expedition of Verrazani, had revisited the shore of the new land, explored the coast from Labrador to Florida, and with grave formality had claimed the entire country for the English crown.

Here then were the bases of a dispute, of a conflict of claims between two of the most advanced and progressive nations of Europe, the direct consequences of which, in the course of one hundred years, proved appalling and dreadful. From the results of these expeditions of Sebastian Cabot and Verrazani, sprang a series of the fiercest and most bloody wars known in the history of the new world. Long after the adventurous navigators and the youngest of the voyagers who had sailed with them had passed away, and the early achievements and power of Spain in the land had been forgotten, their acts on behalf of their respective sovereigns bore fruits of blood and slaughter, the horror and enormity of which cause civilization to shudder at their contemplation even to this day. In that era of bloodshed, the most repellant of all the periods in American history, the mind may accord to the French the peculiar distinction of having availed themselves of the most barbarous methods conceivable against their foes and the hapless settlers, the use

of savage and blood-thirsty tribes of Indians as their allies in fighting their enemies as well as in massacreing thousands of innocent and helpless colonists.

After the voyage of Verrazani a period of ten years was allowed to elapse before the French undertook to confirm by a second expedition their claim to the new land. In the year fifteen hundred and thirty-four, the government sent out another exploring party under the command of Jacques Cartier. This leader possessed some of the characteristics of his Florentine predecessor, one of which was an inclination to practice bad faith in dealing with the natives. He sailed along the coast of the new country until he reached the Gulf of St. Lawrence, when he displayed the quality of the explorer and of the daring navigator alike, by entering the unknown estuary and voyaging onward. Ascending the swift-flowing river St. Lawrence he came finally to an Indian settlement on the site of the present city of Montreal. The spectacle of the wondering natives, dressed in the skins of beasts, living in tents, or huts made from the bark of the birch tree, and wearing ornaments fashioned from the shells of fishes and the bones of animals, was sufficient to attract the attention and arouse the curiosity of the French, and they decided to proceed no farther. It was the beginning of winter when they arrived at the native town and they resolved to remain until spring. The Indians received them hospitably, provided for their wants, traded with them and in various ways manifested toward them a friendly spirit. The stay of Cartier and his party with these friendly people who were ruled by a Chief and who were well supplied with food and means of shelter, during the long and rigorous months from autumn until spring was productive of an unusual amount of valuable information in connection with that portion of the country, its resources and its population. It might be supposed that on leaving the hospitable tribe, there would be displayed on the part of the French some evidence of gratitude. Cartier evinced his sense of the obligation incurred by seizing the Indian Chief and forcibly carrying him to France. In the meantime, he had with the usual formality, laid claim to all the land in the name of his sovereign.

The supine attitude of the Spaniards, and the absence of opposition from the English, emboldened the French in their schemes in the new land. They not only regarded themselves as masters of all the territory north of Florida, but they began to display evidence of a disposition to include in their possessions a portion of Florida itself. In the course of time they made preparations to form colonies in the strange country, and while it was the fate of the French, after the



MUNICIPAL BUILDINGS, of the City of Philadelphia.





lapse of a little more than a century, to be compelled to relinquish every foot of ground they possessed in the new world, they are entitled to the credit of having established the first settlement on the soil of North America, and of having constructed on the strange land the earliest stronghold, notwithstanding the fact that the colony was not permanent.

The persecution of French Protestants about the year fifteen hundred and sixty, produced a state of terror and dread on the part of a considerable element of the people and the glowing accounts which the voyagers gave of the attractions of the western world, caused the members of the unhappy sect to look with longing eyes toward the shores of the land where they could live in peace, and worship in accordance with the promptings of their spiritual nature.

In the year fifteen hundred and sixty-two a large party of Protestants, under a commander named Ribault, sailed from France and landed on the northern portion of Florida. The place selected for the settlement was along the banks of the pleasant river St. John. While the colonists occupied themselves building houses and taking up land in the balmy region Ribault proceeded to the island of Port Royal, off the coast of the present State of South Carolina, and constructed a fort which he named Port Carolina. Having completed his work and surveyed it to his satisfaction, he conceived his mission in the new land complete and sailed for France. The departure of the leader from the shore of the wild country, and with him the power and prestige of the mother land, produced a sense of loneliness and desolation on the helpless colonists, and, after yearning for their native clime for the period of a year, they set to work, constructed a ship and sailed for France. The vessel was faulty and the provisions scarce, and but for the timely appearance of an English man-of-war it is probable the unfortunate settlers would not have survived to relate their experience on the banks of the St. John. They were taken on board the English vessel in a half-starved condition and in the course of time were landed on the soil of France.

The failure of the first attempt to found a colony on the distant land did not discourage the boundless enterprise of the French. With the experience of the original party, scarcely a year removed, a second company sailed for the new world under the leadership of Laudonniere, and, governed by the prevailing notion that the region of the St. John was the most desirable situation for a colony, they established themselves near the site of the former settlement. The venture proved successful, the colonists were reasonably contented, the soil was fruitful

and new accessions were received to their number. There was every promise of the ultimate prosperity and of the extension of the settlement when an unexpected occurrence changed the prospect of peace and happiness and produced in its place bloodshed and slaughter and the total extinction of the colony.

The Spaniards, who had neglected for so long a period of time to enforce their claim to the right of possession of the new country, received information of the existence of the settlement of French Protestants in Florida. The knowledge was sufficient to incense a race peculiarly jealous of its rights, and impatient, in the consciousness of priority of discovery, of interference, and in the year fifteen hundred and sixty-five a fleet was dispatched from Spain under Melendez with orders to drive the intruders from the land. The expedition reached a harbor in the Gulf of Mexico, where Melendez, as a preliminary step to the assertion of the power of Spain, proceeded to build a fortress. When the work was finished the place was designated as St. Augustine, and thus was laid the foundation of the present city of that name. The Spaniards were now fully aroused to the importance of enforcing their former claims which had so long languished, and to the necessity of establishing colonies in Florida. With the building of the fort at St. Augustine was also formed the nucleus of a settlement under the auspices and the power of Spain. In the meantime the progressive French had a fleet lying off the northern coast of Florida, south of the French stronghold at Port Royal. The Spanish ships had not been long at St. Augustine before the French vessels put to sea to attack and if possible destroy the entire expedition. To the misfortune of the French a storm arose and their ships were wrecked. The exultant Spaniards, more determined than ever to effectually end French encroachments in Florida, made their way through the forest, reached the colony of the French Protestants, fell upon the helpless settlers and massacred them all with the exception of a few mechanics whom they reduced to slavery.

This atrocious act was amply revenged three years later. In the year fifteen hundred and sixty-eight Admiral de Gourges sailed from France with a fleet bound for the coast of Florida. He reached St. Augustine, surprised the Spanish garrison, put every Spaniard to death, and hanging their bodies on trees placed upon each placard inscribed, "I do this not as unto Spaniards, but as unto traitors, robbers and murderers."



Bird's-eye view of Broad Street Station of the Pennsylvania Railroad, looking west.



1877





### CHAPTER III.

ADVENT OF THE ENGLISH TO THE NEW CONTINENT—EARLY EFFORTS TO FORM NEW COLONIES AND THEIR FAILURE—THE WANE OF THE POWER OF THE SPANIARDS—DISAPPEARANCE OF THE SETTLERS AT ROANOKE—THE FIRST PERMANENT COLONY AT JAMESTOWN.

FROM the standpoint of the American race, that portion of the history of the new world in its long and troublesome period of colonization and settlement which marks the advent of the English, must ever be regarded as the beginning of a newer and brighter epoch in the experience of its slow and uncertain development under the guardianship of fretful and contentious nations, the irritant clashing of whose claims and the harshness of whose protests are not rendered more agreeable by the realization of the fact that the ever-recurring controversies are waged by disputants who severally speak a strange tongue, and who are possessed of manners and customs in many respects widely different from those of the people who gave to the Americans their language, and, in the main, their customs, which are essentially the same in the lands of the two races in this day.

With the massacre of the French settlers in Florida, the Spaniards disappear as important figures in the history of the colonization of the new world. Forced by the aggressiveness of the French and of the English to confine themselves to their original claim of Florida, to Central and South America and to the southern portion of what is now the coast land of the American United States on the Pacific, they subside from the scene of the approaching investment of universal interest and tremendous action in the present English-speaking section of the Columbian land; and as they fade from view to the narrow limits of their remote possessions on the soil of North America, the growing forms, typical of two of the most powerful nations of Europe, loom clear and distinct in the prospect, unyielding and menacing in the attitude of their ancient rivalry and enmity, the scope of whose influence and effort on the new continent is destined for the period of nearly two centuries to be only limited by the boundaries of the land itself.

The first attempt of the English to form colonies on the strange territory were attended not only by failure, but resulted in disaster to the settlers, the melancholy fate of some of whom constitutes one of the most gloomy pages in the history of the efforts of the Anglo-Saxon

race in the direction of colonization in the new clime in the closing years of the sixteenth century. A period of ten years had elapsed from the time when De Gourgues avenged the murder of the French colonists by the massacre of the Spanish garrison at St. Augustine. The English throne was occupied by Elizabeth, and the time had come when the nation under this strong-minded Queen was prepared to take the initial step towards asserting its right to the land first beheld by Sebastian Cabot in the year fifteen hundred and eighteen. Sixty years from the date of that voyage, in fifteen hundred and seventy-eight, the Queen granted to one of her subjects, Sir Humphrey Gilbert, a patent to a large portion of territory lying along the Atlantic coast north of Florida. An English expedition had visited the land in this section of the new country, and the accounts which its members gave of the distant shore on their return to England appear to have impressed Elizabeth. Her unmarried state suggested a name for her new possessions and the designation, Virginia, was accepted by the nations of Europe during the reign of this sovereign as another and more specific title for the greater known portion of the distant territory.

The first expedition sent to the new coast by Gilbert was wrecked, and all those who sailed on the unfortunate voyage perished. This disaster produced a feeling of dread and dismay on the English people, the passage of ships to and from the strange land being regarded as a feat attended by numerous imaginary dangers; and for a period of seven years no further effort was made to secure settlers for the Western World. The interest on the part of England in the untold resources of its vast area, and the belief that it possessed riches in silver and gold, were steadily growing among the subjects of Elizabeth, and the successor to Sir Humphrey Gilbert in the business of colonization in America appeared in the person of Sir Walter Raleigh. He was possessed of ample means, and also of a mind unusually progressive and liberal, and his faith in the future of the new land was strongly attested by the perseverance and energy he displayed in the face of successive failures to establish settlements on its shore. His first expedition was sent from England in the year fifteen hundred and eighty-five. Profiting by the disastrous result of the enterprise undertaken by Gilbert seven years before, the originator of the second attempt to form a settlement on the American possessions placed a fleet of stout ships under the charge of an experienced commander, Sir Richard Grenville. The expedition was amply provided with the necessary implements for farming, and, to the credit of its far-sighted and liberal projector, the several hundred colonists were likewise furnished with a generous sup-



PENNSYLVANIA RAILROAD—NEW BROAD STREET STATION.





ply of food, with articles of furniture, and the utensils usually employed in housekeeping.

The destination of the party was the island of Roanoke in Albemarle Sound, off the coast of the present State of North Carolina. They reached this place in safety, disembarked with their supplies, and with the aid of their commander selected the site for the settlement, and proceeded to lay out the ground. Having seen the party established on the new soil in a place where fish and game were abundant, and where, under ordinary conditions, by the exercise of industry and patience, the success of the experiment would have been reasonably certain, Grenville returned with his ships to England.

The first settlement of the English on the shore of America bears a resemblance in one respect to the mournful experience of the expedition of the Spaniards forty-six years before under the leadership of the ill-fated de Soto. The delusive hope of finding gold, arising from a knowledge of the discoveries in Mexico and Peru, proved to be the motive which had prompted a considerable portion of the company to sail from England, and the pursuit of agriculture was treated as a matter of secondary importance. In the new country, with the source of supply of the necessities of life no nearer than England, there could be but one result; and when the unfortunate colonists were almost on the point of perishing from starvation, the renowned English commander, Sir Francis Drake, with a fleet bound from the West Indies to England, touched at Roanoke, learned the condition of the settlers, and, yielding to their entreaties, took them all on board and sailed for the home land. The imaginative mind may enjoy diversion in picturing the sensation of surprise and of dismay experienced by Sir Richard Grenville when he arrived at the site of the original colony a few weeks later with ships laden with supplies and found the place wholly abandoned, with the buildings and such evidences of labor as the settlers had left, unmolested, yet without any trace that would lead to an explanation of the mystery of their disappearance.

In the desire and zeal of the English to effect a settlement in the new country, they appear to have given small consideration to the question of the character and disposition of the natives. Proceeding by methods different from the ways of the Spaniards, they landed on the strange coast without the trappings or the menace of war, selected the location of their proposed colony, constructed their rude dwellings, entertaining in the meanwhile no ambitious schemes of conquest and subjugation. They were colonists, and not warriors. The power and the arms of the nation which owned them as subjects were busy assert-

ing its rights, extending its sway, meeting challenges and redressing grievances among its equals,—the civilized races of Europe,—and to the lasting glory of the Anglo-Saxon name, it made no wanton, unprovoked war on the uncivilized red men of the vast country which afterward came so completely into its possession. Methodically, orderly, patiently, and with close observance of details, the English reared the structure of almost universal dominion, not by means similar to those which destroyed the Aztecs of Mexico and Peru, but by the enlightened and humane scheme of colonization.

The tolerance of the English nation toward the natives of the new land may appear singular in view of the injuries inflicted by the red men upon the early settlers. When Sir Richard Grenville found the colonists at Roanoke had disappeared, he left a dozen men with adequate provisions to look after the interests of the settlement and returned to England. Two years later, in fifteen hundred and eighty-seven, another expedition arrived in Albemarle Sound with a considerable company of emigrants, including men with their wives and children. It speaks well for the courage and perseverance of this second party of colonists that, when they reached the settlement at Roanoke and found strewn upon the ground the bones of the men who had been left in charge of the place by Sir Richard Grenville and nothing of the rude fort which had been constructed for their defense save its ruins, they determined to remain, although this evidence of the barbarity and the inclination of the natives could not be misunderstood. They proceeded without loss of time to construct houses. In the matter of provisions, both for food and for the means of labor, they were supplied on a generous basis; and there were also among them a number of mechanics, especially carpenters. In honor of the projector of the enterprise, it was proposed to build a city and call it Raleigh, a purpose that was afterward effected, but not under the auspices of these unfortunate early colonists.

The ships which carried this second party of emigrants to the strange shore returned to England and there was no further communication by the mother country with the Albemarle colony for the period of three years. In the year fifteen hundred and ninety some English vessels arrived with letters and provisions. The melancholy revelation of a settlement without the trace of a former inhabitant, and with every evidence of ruin and decay, was not calculated to furnish cheerful intelligence to carry back to England, especially when it is considered that the destroyed colonists had been neglected by their friends and the English nation for a length of time that could not but severely reflect on the humanity of both.





St. George's Hall, Thirteenth and Arch Sts. Headquarters of the English Society of St. George.





This was the end of the effort to form a settlement at Roanoke. The news of the fate of the colonists occasioned a sensation and produced an unfavorable impression of the new land in England. Whether they were massacred on the spot or taken to the settlement of the Indians and put to death, or whether they constructed a ship and undertook to sail for the mother country and perished, are questions that must be ever left to conjecture. An interest of a special character is involved in their disappearance owing to the fact that with them was the first English child born on the soil of America, an infant named Virginia Dare. A pleasant conceit has found its way into historical appendices in connection with the mystery of the taking off of these settlers, and the imagination may find solace in the somewhat vague tradition that the colonists were adopted by the Hatteras tribe of Indians and ultimately became as the natives themselves, a disposition of the problem that is more pleasing to the fancy than it is creditable to the reason, which might ponder in vain for an explanation of the art that would enable the red men to gather into their tribe almost one hundred English men, women and children, and within a space of time somewhat less than a generation, leave no evidence of the coalition of the two races to be discovered by the enlightened people who afterward became numerous in the land.

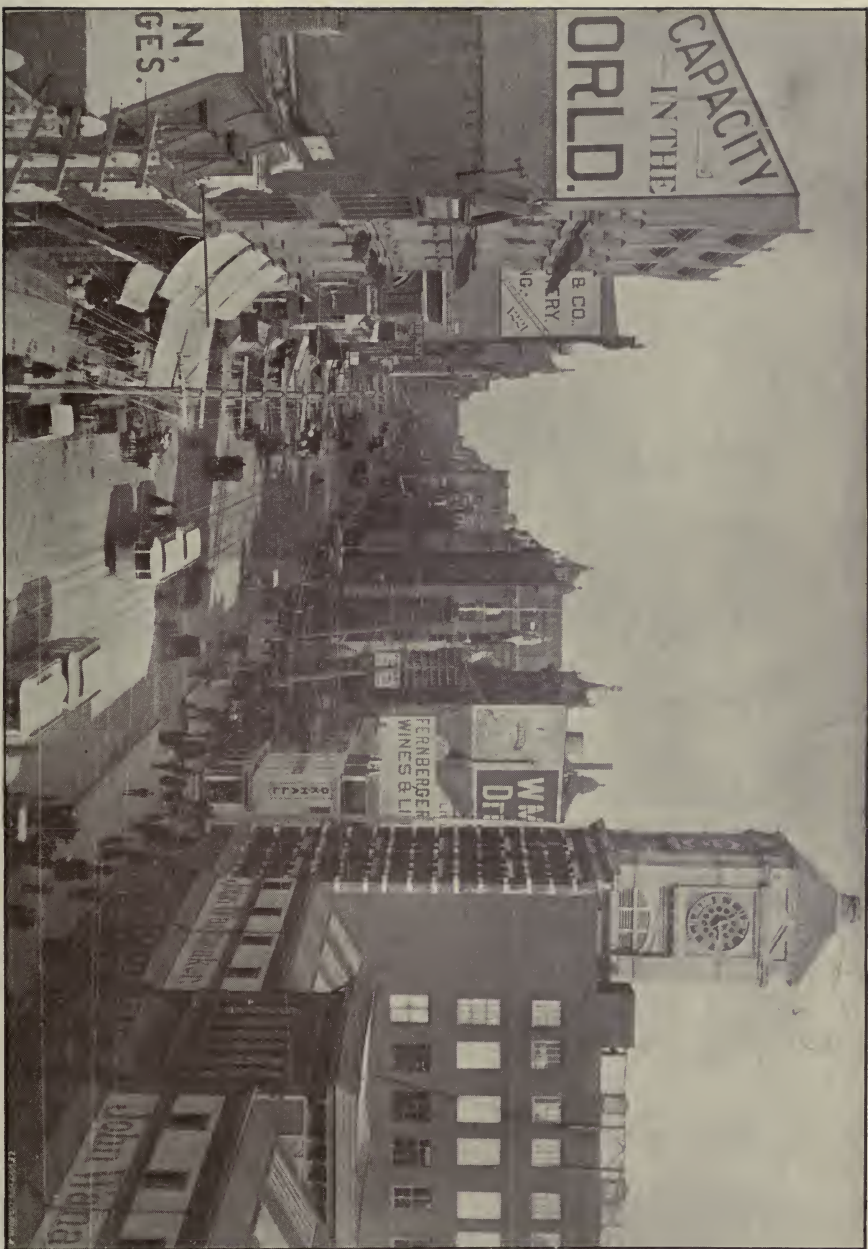
Elizabeth, the progressive and enlightened Queen, passed away and the problem in England of forming a colony in America that would endure, had not been solved. The mystery of the lost settlers of Roanoke troubled the minds of the English people for many years. There were no Sir Humphrey Gilberts or Sir Walter Raleighs to undertake singly any more the hazardous enterprise of founding a settlement on the wild and uncertain territory. They too had passed from the scene of worldly action, and the whitening bones of the ill-fated portion of Sir Richard Grenville's crew, on the distant shore of Albemarle, were a vivid reminder of the perils of colonization on the lonely coast. The courage and the resources of persons individually were not equal to the task that seemed to be involved in any attempt to settle and develop the strange country, though the fertility of the soil and the excellence of the climate, which were known to yield that plant of singular property and growing adaptation, tobacco, were universally recognized. The speculative minds of the English refused to forget the allurements of a financial nature which the land possessed, and the risks to human life in the home of the red men seemed to lose something of their magnitude as the affair of the vanished colonists became more remote. In the meanwhile, the power and the greatness of England had been

steadily growing ; and, keeping pace with her universal development was the idea of the necessity of promoting her interests in the colonies.

This sentiment resolved itself finally into action on the part of certain subjects of James I., and the London Company received an ample charter from that King, granting it the right to make settlements on the coast of North America, between Florida and Nova Scotia. The issue of the grant in the year sixteen hundred and six, a period of sixteen years after the failure of the scheme at Roanoke, was followed directly by preparations on an unusual scale for securing colonists. The corporation, profiting doubtless by the mistakes made in the selection of men on the occasion of the several expeditions of Raleigh, exercised circumspection in making up the party of one hundred and five persons who sailed on this voyage. The company included, as some of its most important members, half a dozen carpenters and masters of other trades, provided with the materials and implements for building houses. That the corporation had been careful to organize the enterprise in such manner as to enable it to retain and exercise control over the prospective colony, was shown by the fact that it prepared the draft of a form of government, selected the officers who were to govern, and sent them, fully invested with their authority in London, with the company of emigrants with whom they were to constitute the new settlement. The promptness with which the party was made up and sent on its mission, indicates forcibly the practical sense and business-like methods of the promoters of the enterprise. The expedition was fitted out and ready to sail in December of the year in which the charter had been obtained ; and in May of the year following, sixteen hundred and seven, the colonists arrived off the coast of Virginia. Avoiding that region with which was associated the unknown fate of the missing settlers, they sailed northward until they entered the blue waters of the great bay of the Chesapeake, and saw for the first time the evidence of the varied forms of vegetation in the profusion of budding and blooming trees and plants on the low-lying Virginian shore. Their sensations as they gazed on the strange land, contemplative and curious on the question of the site of their future home, may be supposed to have been peculiar and not entirely devoid of a sense of dread in connection with the prospect of encountering various unknown perils.

When they left the broad expanse of the bay and sailed up a large and finely shaded river the realization of their near approach to the beginning of the great experiment of their lives impressed them, and brought vividly to their minds the fact of their prospective position of isolation and comparative defencelessness. The destination of the





MARKET STREET, looking east from Broad (Fourteenth) Street.





leader of the expedition, Captain Newport, was a portion of Virginia that would afford a navigable stream not too far from the coast, and in which the soil would be favorable for the cultivation of tobacco. He found what he deemed to be the proper location about thirty miles from the bay of the Chesapeake on the bank of the stream described ; and upon the English sovereign was bestowed the double honor of having his name perpetuated in the christening of both the river and the site of the future town.

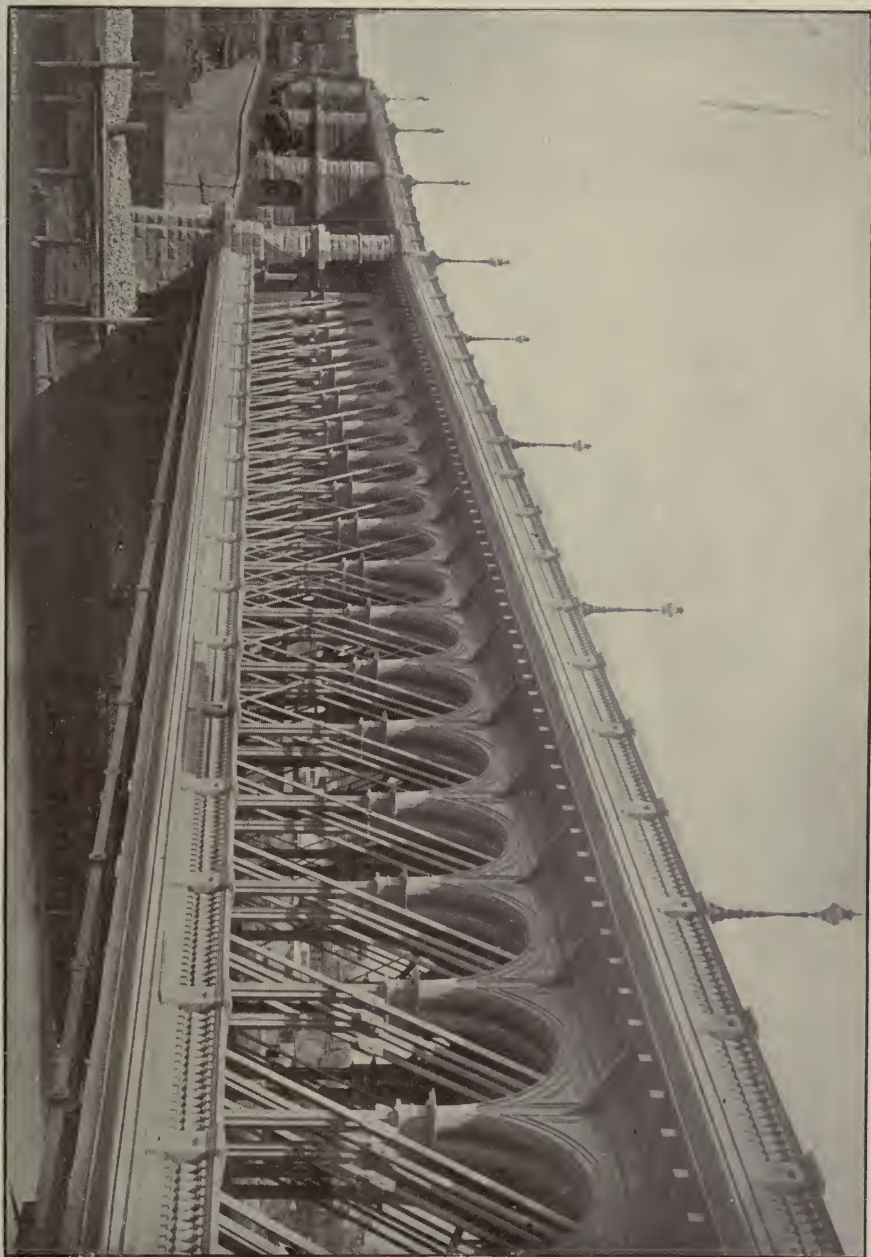
The history of Jamestown, of the trials of these colonists who formed the first permanent settlement of the English on the soil of North America, with a reference particularly to their encounters with the Indians, and to the exploits of Captain John Smith, who finally became president of the council which ruled the colony, and whose life was saved by Pocohantas, the daughter of the native chief, Powhatan, embodies the most thrilling of the experiences of early settlers in the new land. The settlement grew, and the pursuit of agriculture was followed diligently. The great staple article produced, however, was tobacco. The growing demand for this article in the markets of London caused Jamestown to be looked upon for a time as the coming centre of commerce in the New World, and after a lapse of several years English ships, bringing such articles as the domestic economy of the colonists required, began to be seen with more frequency in the waters of the Chesapeake and of the James. They brought, in a number of instances, scores of young women as wives for the colonists, the expense of whose passage was gladly paid by their future husbands in tobacco. In this manner the London Company insured the growth and permanency of the settlement. Within the period of fifteen years from the landing of the first expedition and the founding of Jamestown, the colony had four thousand members. A government, representative in its character, had been formed, its members being elected by the people, and Jamestown attained to the dignity of the possession of an assemblage known as the House of Burgesses. Thus they succeeded, after a series of attempts covering a period of twenty-nine years, in founding a permanent settlement in the New World. Thenceforth, for one hundred and eighty-five years, the history of the country is the history of the progress of the English and of the French on its soil, and of the wars which finally occurred between the two nations, resulting in the evacuation of the territory by France, leaving the English in undisputed possession of the land with the exception of the small sections embracing Florida, Louisiana, and the possessions of the Spaniards on the coast of the Pacific ; the transfer of which ultimately to the United

States of America is a matter of history comparatively recent, and unaccompanied, happily, by the necessity of any recital involving the shedding of blood in the slaughter of war.

The studious mind will note the character of these first English colonists, the circumstances under which they were prompted to leave their native shore, and will be impressed, in a retrospective view of the development of the American race from the standpoint of this day, by the fact of the marked difference between the Jamestown settlers, the founders, practically, not only of Virginia but of the Southern race in the United States, and their Puritan fellow-countrymen, who followed them to the new land, but not to the same genial and inviting region on its soil. If, in the course of several centuries, the outcropping of sharp antagonism between the descendants of the two sets of colonists is noticed, the fact should be recalled of the difference in the character of the men composing the first two English settlements in America, although natives of the same soil, and of the dissimilarity of motives which prompted them to emigrate from the mother land.



BRIDGE ACROSS THE SCHUYLKILL, at Girard Avenue.







## CHAPTER IV.

THE HIGH PLACE IN THE HISTORY OF EXPLORATION AND DISCOVERY ON THE NEW CONTINENT OCCUPIED BY THE ITALIANS—THEIR INTELLIGENCE AND EXEMPLARY CONDUCT—THE ADVENT OF THE DUTCH AND THE PURITANS—PENN AND THE FOUNDING OF PHILADELPHIA.

IN the era of early exploration and discovery on the New Continent the impartial mind, in a review of important events and large revelations transpiring before the wondering gaze of Europe, must invariably concede no small share of credit to be due on the part of civilization to the Italians. Their performance in the vast field of action, the development of which in a measure changed the history of the world and marked a distinct epoch in the progress of mankind, places the sons of the descendants of the Cæsars in advance of the other races of the earth with respect to the original conception and the demonstration of great truths relative to the existence and to the nature of the new land. Columbus, the Italian, conceived and carried into effect, by means of immense patience and perseverance, an idea so original and novel that his simple statement of its nature was sufficient to arouse a doubt in the matter of his sanity. The trials he experienced and the steadfast adherence to the truth of his convictions he exhibited under circumstances that appeal to the humane and softer traits of the nature of man, are not to be contemplated without realizing a sense of strong emotion. The story of his discouragements, his rebuffs, his disappointments, and of the patience and unwavering faith in the justness of his belief and of the cause that cost him so much misery of mind and soul, and finally of the stupendous triumph of his idea and of his efforts, is without parallel perhaps in the history of mankind. If Italy had done no more than contribute to the welfare of the world the genius of this patient and persevering man, its claim to the gratitude of the human race, as well as to the place of honor among the nations of the earth, would have been complete.

As if to present before the eyes of the world, however, an example of the spirit and the fibre of the descendants of the ancient Romans, an inexorable fate seems to have decreed that those nations of the earth which were destined to possess for a period of almost two centuries the entire extent of the Western Continent should stand in the relation of debtors for their vast acquisition, to the intelligence, the foresight, the

integrity and the undaunted daring of the Italians. Directly in the wake of Columbus, inspired by the results of his first voyage, arise the figures of John and Sebastian Cabot, father and son, Venetians, known to the shipping interests of Bristol, England ; and soon their several ships are ploughing the seas under a royal commission from Henry VII in search of unknown lands, islands or provinces. Their undertaking involved many risks, grave responsibilities, and a large outlay of money none of which was furnished by the Crown, the commission stipulating that the explorers should voyage at their own expense, a condition which does more credit to the shrewdness and thrift of the English king than it does to his benevolence. The Cabots reached the mainland at Labrador in June, fourteen hundred and ninety-seven, one year and two months before Columbus reached the continent on his third expedition, and thus discovered the eastern coast line of the new land, which was afterward fully explored on a second voyage by Sebastian.

This voyage of the Italians gave to England its claim to the greater portion of the continent. Two years after the first discovery by the Cabots and six months from the time of the third voyage of Columbus, another native of Italy, possessed of much of the same studious and philosophic quality of mind as the latter, created throughout Europe a sensation equal to those produced by his three fellow-countrymen by a voyage of exploration to the new coast which resulted in enlightening the world and revealing to civilization one great fact in connection with the Columbian land. Amidst the confusion and the excitement in Europe incident to the discoveries by Columbus and by the Cabots there was one mind which remained calm and collected, suspended judgment on the question of the identity of the strange territory, and finally, to satisfy all doubt, undertook a voyage to the distant coast. Landing on its southern portion, Amerigo Vespucci pursued a careful investigation into the nature and the climate of the new shore, and in the course of time amply confirmed the belief he had entertained that it was in no way connected with India. Having thus taken the most direct means of settling the question he returned to Europe, and civilization again realized that it owed a debt of gratitude to one of the race of Italy. Verrazani, another Italian, by his adventurous voyage from Florida to Labrador in the interest of the King of France, gave to the French, as a result of his expedition, a claim which enabled them to possess one-half the continent for a period of almost two hundred years.

In these great exploits of the early voyagers, at a time when the



FIRST UNITARIAN CHURCH, Twenty-second and Chestnut Streets.





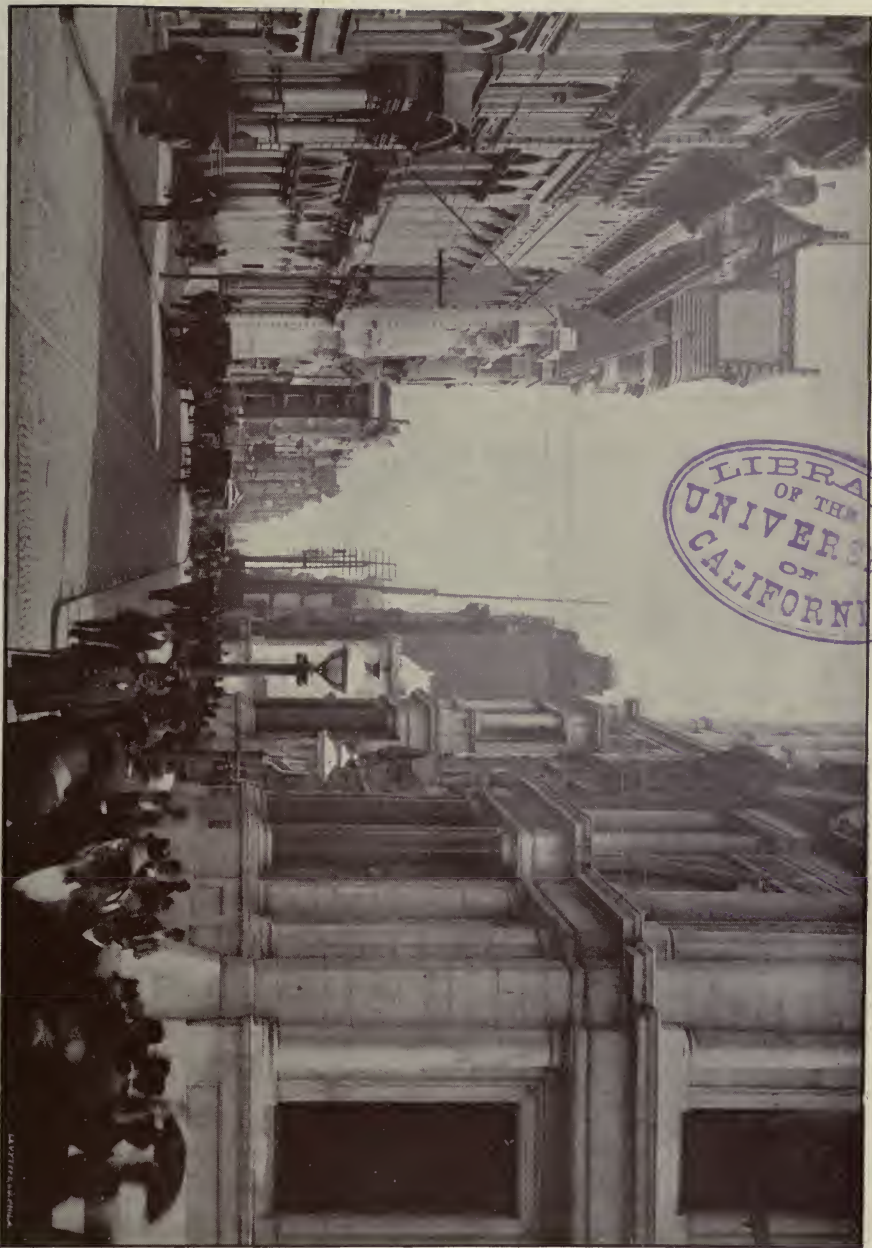
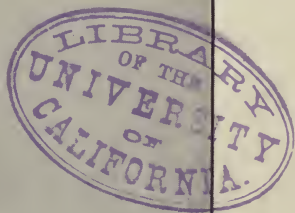
adventurous and warlike of other nations were seizing the natives of the strange land and carrying them off to be sold into slavery, or driving them by fire and sword from their possessions that they might possess their silver and gold, the moral sense of the Italians shines above reproach. They were not alone explorers, but humane, scientific men and philosophers. Their ambition was to enrich mankind by great discoveries, and not to despoil a helpless and unenlightened portion of it through a vulgar greed for gold. Thus, while the greatest of the discoveries of the world stand in the Italian name, no act of misconduct, no perversion of power, destroy the lustre that distinguishes in the annals of history the high position of this advanced and polished race. No greater tribute can be paid to its genius and character, perhaps, than to say that had the matter of the naming of the new world remained for a period in abeyance pending the decision of the question of the right of Columbus or of Vespucci to furnish the term of its designation, the result, so far as the recognition of the honor due to Italy was concerned, would have been inevitably the same. The achievements of these two Italians were so original and so tremendous in their consequences that they shone to the remotest corners of the earth without the possibility of being rivalled, and beyond the power of future acts and discoveries on the part of persons of any other nationality producing the result of the eclipse of their glory and their fame. Inseparably joined with the name of Columbus, and secure in their claim on posterity to lasting honor, are the characters of the liberal and enlightened sovereigns of Spain, the progressive Ferdinand and the gentle Isabella, who, surrounded by a dense atmosphere of bigotry and superstition, possessed the breadth of nature and the force of mind sufficient to place them in advance of the rulers of nations as the supporters of the enterprise of the lonely Italian which brought about the most stupendous results known to man since the beginning of creation.

From the time of the first Columbian voyage and discovery in fourteen hundred and ninety-two to the date of the first settlement of the English at Jamestown in the year sixteen hundred and seven, the interval seems long and the progress of development on the new continent tedious. It required a lapse of one hundred and fifteen years before the Anglo-Saxon race was ready to devote its attention steadily and practically to the business of colonization on the Western World. The date of the founding of Jamestown marks the beginning of a more simple and a more easy course in American history. From that period the mind may contemplate the steady influx into the new territory, and the establishment along the eastern coast of the country from

Florida to New Foundland, not alone of the English, but of the Dutch and the Swedes, the latter two races of which have a place of importance almost equal with that of the English in the colonization of what are now the Eastern Middle States. In the perception of the advantages offered by the new country to trade and to commerce the Dutch were especially quick and enterprising. With the example before their eyes of the London Company and its colony at Jamestown engaged in the business of raising tobacco, some thrifty men in Holland organized a corporation to be known as the Dutch Company, and sent forth to the shores of the new land an experienced Dutch navigator named Henry Hudson. He sailed in a small ship of only eighty tons burthen, and penetrating the long and dangerous passage of what is now known as the Narrows entered the sheet of water which was destined, in the course of years, to be known as the Bay of New York. This event occurred in the year sixteen hundred and nine, or two years after the establishment of the colony at Jamestown. The mind may follow the results of Hudson's discoveries, the exploit which took him up the river that afterward received his name, the formal taking possession of Manhattan Island and the founding of the city of New Amsterdam, and may realize that the English, in their growing colony at Jamestown, were rapidly acquiring European neighbors in the strange territory. The Dutch came, not as warriors seeking conquest, but as merchants and traders. They settled placidly on the island discovered by Hudson, and began to do an active business in bartering rum and other products of civilization with the Indians, receiving from the natives in return the furs of animals which commanded a ready sale at high prices in Europe; and their colony grew rapidly in population as well as in importance. New Amsterdam was founded in the year sixteen hundred and thirteen, or six years after the landing at Jamestown.

The influx of the third party of colonists marks the beginning of the history of the Puritans in the Western World. Their arrival at Plymouth in the year sixteen hundred and twenty, thirteen years after the landing of the first company of English settlers in Virginia, and seven years after the Dutch founded New Amsterdam, presented the spectacle of three distinct colonies in North America, each possessed of marked peculiarities which, had they all settled in one place, would have shown them to be anything but homogeneous. Of the colonists at Jamestown and at Plymouth respectively, the former were undoubtedly the most agreeable, the most liberal in their ideas, and the most thoroughly identified with the institutions of England. They came to





CHESTNUT STREET, from corner of Fifth Street, looking east.





the new land, in some instances, from the love of travel and adventure, in more cases, however, for the purpose of making themselves rich by farming and growing tobacco, but in no instance for the sake of their conscience. The religion of what in time became the Established Church was sufficient for their spiritual needs, and they troubled neither their own minds nor the peace and comfort of their neighbors over new doctrines, excess of zeal, or indulgence in fanaticism. They acquired large plantations, experienced delight in the possession of spirited horses, and laid the foundation of a benign and agreeable social life which has endured to this day.

The austere class or sect that landed on the dreary shore of Massachusetts had not departed from their native soil through the love of adventure, nor yet at the prompting of any desire for the possession on the new land of increased riches. The Puritans were at war with the established form of worship in their own country, and with many of its customs and its institutions. They went forth to create a world of their own, and were firmly averse to the admission into their company of any person or set of persons not of their own belief, or not in sympathy with their extreme interpretation of the divine mission with which they were invested on earth. Their fierce intolerance of the Quakers stands in early American history as one of the most marked examples of the barbarity of fanaticism to be found in the records of civilization. Springing from the same soil and suffering the same forms of persecution, the plight of the two sects were strikingly similar; yet how different the spirit of one in its manifestation toward the other! After a lapse of thirty-six years from the time of the landing at Plymouth, or in the year sixteen hundred and fifty-six, the zealous and determined sect enacted a decree prohibiting, on the part of captains of ships, the bringing of Quakers to Puritan soil under penalty of fine and imprisonment. For the Quakers themselves were reserved somewhat more severe forms of punishment. If, by any mischance, an adherent of the doctrines of Fox was found in the Massachusetts colony, the victim might contemplate the prospect of an experience either at the whipping post, in the House of Correction, or at hard labor for the benefit of the community, or the possibility of the three penalties combined. These inflictions for the sake of the Puritan religion may appear mild in comparison with the method prescribed by a later decree for insuring the colonists against the contaminating influence of the objectionable sect, and any magistrate or official vested with authority could have the satisfaction of exercising one of the functions of his office by boring a hole in the tongue of a Quaker with red hot iron if the intruder was

unlucky enough to be apprehended. Baptists and Jesuits were likewise under the ban of Puritan displeasure, the whipping post being reserved for the former, while the latter, in the event of their return after having been once driven out, were to be put to death.

Thus the second English colony on the Western World evinced its disposition to avail itself of the opportunity which the new land afforded to live and worship according to its doctrines, free from the persecution of the fanatics of its native soil. The records of its progress are so replete with accounts of the apprehension, the trial and the burning of witches, the execution of malefactors, the flogging of non-followers of the Puritan faith and the punishment of heretics generally, that the mind is apt to find itself in a state of bewilderment in the effort to discover how it managed to find time in the intervals of the prevailing task of punishing persons of other religious belief and of supposed malign influence, in which to pursue the ordinary vocations of life.

In the meanwhile, the colony at Jamestown and the Puritans at Plymouth remained the only two English settlements on the New Continent, possessed in each instance of a marked and distinctive peculiarity, until the arrival of the Quakers under the colonization scheme of Penn and the founding of Philadelphia. This event occurred in the year sixteen hundred and eighty-two, sixty-two years after the landing of the Puritans on the Massachusetts coast and seventy-five years subsequent to the settlement of the first English colony at Jamestown. The persecuted adherents of the faith of Fox were not the first Europeans who sailed up the Delaware. The Swedes had been on the land bordering on the shore of the great river for a period of almost fifty years. They had followed the pursuit of agriculture, living on friendly terms with the Indians, and were reasonably contented and happy. Their houses were originally caves dug in the banks of streams or on the sides of the hills; and it is a matter of record that they lived in these primitive dwellings in comfort and peace, sharing with the natives the fruitful land and maintaining toward them a spirit of neighborly intercourse. In their presence in the strange country, so far from their native coast, the Swedes were not voluntary colonists. They had been transported from the home land for various offences of omission and commission, one of the most prevalent being non-observance of the regulation which obliged them to enlist in the army. They were not alone in their voyage to the new shore, but enjoyed the society of some companions in misery in the persons of certain nomadic Finns, the grievance of the government of Sweden against whom appears to have had its origin in their habit



MASONIC TEMPLE.

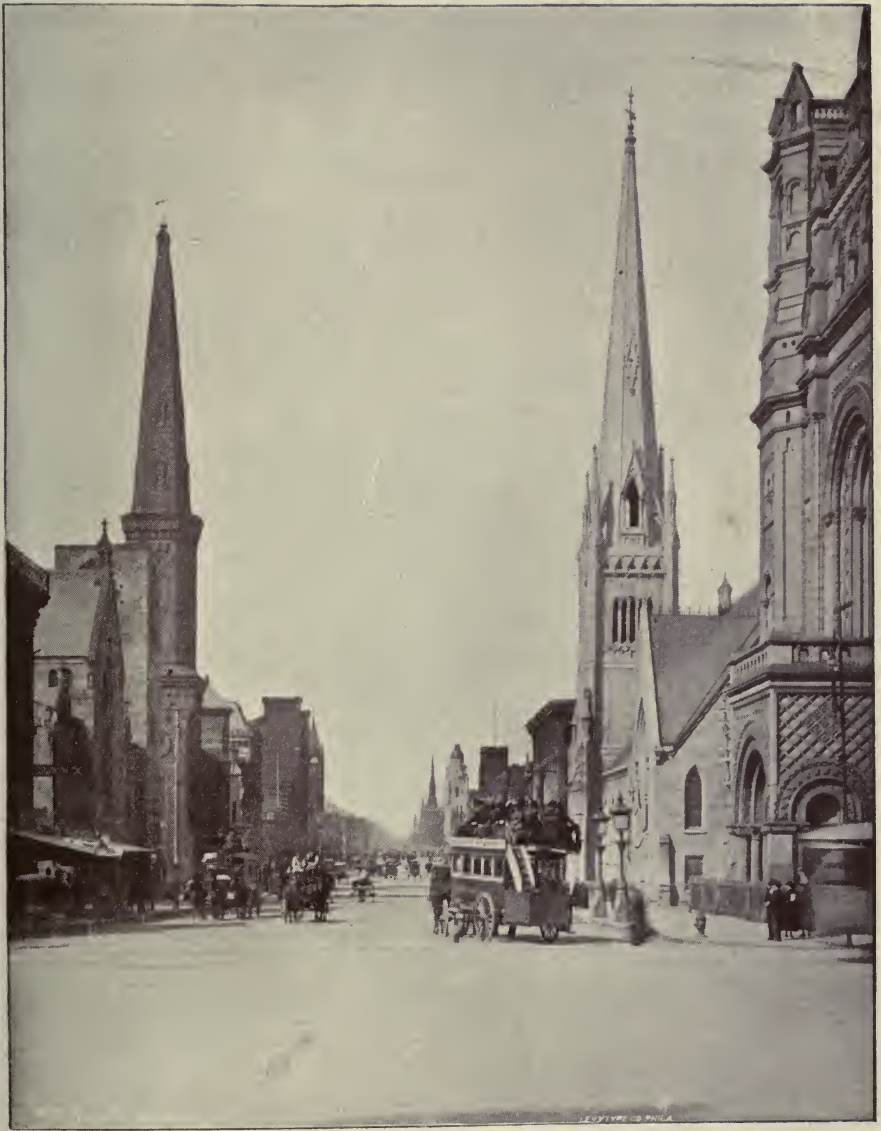




of living the life of squatters in the land of their adoption and of destroying the forests. That the reigning house of Sweden had in view the scheme of acquiring possessions in the New World there can be no doubt; and the plan of forced settlements on its soil would possibly have given the Swedish sovereign a claim upon the land settled by his subjects had he been in a position to enforce it, but the Thirty Years' war absorbed the attention and the energy of his government, and the lonely colonists on the shores of the Delaware were left to take care of themselves. Of thrifty, steady habits, these early settlers became attached to the places on the new territory where they established their homes, and throughout the period of the great change, which came later when the representatives of Penn arrived from England with the necessary authorization to make effective the extensive grant of land to the leader of the Quakers, they submitted without protest to the new rules and customs introduced by the proprietor and his agents, and merged their interests with those of the English as smoothly and as completely as if they had been born and reared on the same soil.







BROAD STREET, north from City Hall.





## CHAPTER V.

THE STARTING OF PHILADELPHIA—ITS RAPID GROWTH AND THE CAUSE THEREOF—THE CHARACTER OF PENN AND OF HIS WORK—EARLY EVIDENCE OF THE CITY'S GREATNESS AS A MANUFACTURING CENTRE.

IN the effort to obtain, with a reasonable degree of accuracy, an idea of the city founded by Penn, as it was prior to the close of the first century of its existence, the mind should divest itself of such notions and prejudices as it may have acquired in connection with the important events relating to the history of the nation; that render Philadelphia memorable and place it first on the list of cities of the new world wherever there is knowledge of the American name. From the date of the beginning of the City on the Delaware, the Western Continent was enabled to present to the gaze of the civilized world the example of a settlement which neither decreased nor languished, but which progressed so rapidly, both in population and in commercial enterprise, as to prove a source of constant wonder to captains of vessels and to seamen, who, on the occasion of every return voyage from Europe, marveled at its growth and at the increase in number of various useful interests. When Penn landed at New Castle on an autumn day in the last week of October in the year sixteen hundred and eighty-two, the English colony at Jamestown had been in existence seventy-five years. The troubles of the Virginia settlement had been incessant and discouraging, and in the long period mentioned there had been times when the fate of the settlers was a matter of grave doubt and the duration of the colony a serious problem. In the year sixteen hundred and twenty-two, fifteen years after the landing on the shore of the James, the settlement possessed four thousand persons. Two years later the colony had been reduced to eighteen hundred inhabitants. There were new accessions in the year sixteen hundred and forty-four, when a considerable force was sent over by Cromwell. The difficulties which had harassed the Virginia settlers however, did not end with this infusion of new life and spirit into their colony, and as late as six years prior to the landing of Penn on the shore of the Delaware, and sixty-nine years after the founding of the settlement in Virginia, the Indians, by their depredations, brought about an uprising of the settlers, who made war against them contrary to the wishes of Berkeley, the Governor of the Province, the direct result of which was the burning and total de-

struction of Jamestown. The second English colony, that of the Puritans at Plymouth, likewise encountered a harsh and trying experience. Their troubles with the natives were numerous and their sufferings from the rigors of the climate severe. In the winter of sixteen hundred and twenty-nine, nine years after the landing of the Puritans, two hundred settlers died in the colony of Massachusetts Bay, and one hundred more, disheartened at the prospect and having no faith in the future of the New England settlement, returned home. Two years later, in sixteen hundred and thirty-one, a number of colonists were frozen to death, while others died from the lack of proper food and nourishment.

In marked contrast with the experience of the first two English colonies in the New World is the history of the greatest of purely American cities. The departure from his native land of the proprietor of Pennsylvania and the founder of Philadelphia was followed directly by a wave of immigration of such force and volume as to somewhat embarrass the surveyor and his assistants who were engaged to lay out lots on the site of the future town. The person entrusted with this work, Captain Thomas Holme, had preceded Penn about six months, having sailed from England under commission as Surveyor General of Pennsylvania on the 23d day of April, sixteen hundred and eighty-two. In the meantime, the cousin of the proprietor, who had been commissioned Deputy Governor of Pennsylvania, William Markham, had reached the distant land in October of the previous year. The mission which had taken him to the new shore in advance of the surveyor and of the proprietor himself was not without weight and responsibility ; and it is not improbable that if an accurate record of the experience of the Deputy Governor in the pursuit of his task of buying from the Indians and the Swedish settlers the claims held by them to various tracts of land embraced in the proposed boundaries of the new city, could be given in detail, history would be enriched and much that is now in doubt concerning the state of advancement and the extent of the population of the Swedes, who had been in the land for upwards of fifty years, would be rendered more clear.

The history of Philadelphia and of Pennsylvania, on a strict construction of the sense of the word, properly begins with certain acts and preparations on the part of the proprietor in the Old World. Much has been written in the course of two hundred years concerning William Penn. A study of his character as it is manifested in his letters and in those of his friends and above all in the provisions embodied in his "frame of government," the laws devised by him for use in the colony to which he gave his name, assuredly does not present him in the light



TERMINAL STATION OF THE PHILADELPHIA AND READING RAILROAD, at Twelfth and Market Streets.







of the stiff, formal person represented in various oil paintings, engravings and ancient prints. When he visited America in the year sixteen hundred and eighty-two he was not over thirty-nine years of age. He was of titled stock, his father, Sir William Penn, having been vice-admiral in the English navy. A handsome young man, faultless in form, face rather pale and features clear cut, with deep, brown, earnest eyes and dark hair—such is the picture of William Penn at thirty-nine as represented in authentic family portraits. Of deep religious feeling, he turned from the gayeties of a life at Court, much to the chagrin of his father, who had high worldly hopes in connection with his career, and became affiliated with the Society of Friends. The utmost severity on the part of the stern old admiral, the harshness and the petty persecutions of the English bailiffs and Justices of the Peace failed to turn the young man from his chosen religion. He travelled in Germany, in Switzerland and in other lands in Continental Europe, seeking out the persecuted of various forms of belief and extending to them comfort and aid. His work for a time was that of a missionary. He published tracts and circulated them widely, employing his own means to spread the doctrine of the Society of Friends, suffering odium and experiencing many petty annoyances on account of his zeal and his earnestness in upholding the religion of a sect that was despised.

In spite of the difference in character and in religious belief between Penn and the reigning house of England, he was liked by King Charles II and by his brother James, Duke of York. His father, the admiral, had rendered some service to the King, and after the death of the elder Penn it appeared the Government was indebted to his estate to the amount of about eighteen thousand pounds. The grant of a patent for the land embraced in the territory of Pennsylvania was the payment of this obligation.

The character of Penn subsequent to the grant of this land seems to present itself in a new aspect. He bends his energy in the direction of gathering into one multitude all the persecuted and the wretched of whatever nationality and colonizing them on his American possessions. In view of the benevolent nature of the man, of his past service to them in their hour of distress and of his well-known disposition as the friend of the oppressed the people eagerly read his pamphlets and circulars which describe the advantages of the soil and the climate of Pennsylvania. In his colonization scheme the warmth of his nature, his enthusiasm and also his disposition to be carried away somewhat by his sanguine temperament are clearly illustrated. The Pennsylvania grant is not the

only land he possesses in America. He purchased several years before an interest in West New Jersey, and at the time of the granting of the patent by Charles he was one of the proprietors of the section mentioned. The colonization scheme of Penn rings throughout the communities of the persecuted in whatever country. From quiet Crefeld on the banks of the Rhine come some German weavers and craftsmen, Quakers and Mennonites, with their families. This was the beginning of the movement in the way of German immigration, which resulted in the founding of Germantown. If the rapid growth of Philadelphia should seem to be a matter of surprise it will not be out of place to call attention to the number and the variety of the races of Europe represented in the persons of the hardy immigrants who rushed to the Pennsylvanian shore. First there were the English Quakers, Penn's friends and neighbors; the Welsh Quakers, the German Quakers, the Irish, the Scotch-Irish, the Swiss, the Belgians, a few French and some of the Dutch. They represented many different forms of belief. The sect of the Quakers was, of course, predominant. There were also Mennonites, Tunkers, Calvinists, Huguenots, Catholics and members of the English Church.

A fact in connection with the incoming of the original Philadelphia stock is worthy of notice. The settlers did not voyage to the new shore with any false notions with reference to the land or the climate. They knew what to expect in Pennsylvania. The proprietor had represented nothing on an extravagant scale. His pamphlets and his circulars were the honest work of a man inexorably honest and just. The emigrants came prepared to work and not to consume their time in idleness. In a brief period of time after the arrival of the first party, the town and the country surrounding were well supplied with skilled and industrious workmen at almost every useful trade. Wages were high and there was plenty of work for all. There were millers, brewers, bakers, blacksmiths, butchers, carpenters, shoemakers, tailors, cabinet makers, spinners, weavers, wheelwrights, wagon builders, clock makers, stone masons and bricklayers; an immense aggregation of brain and muscle, of skill and industry, of energy and of praiseworthy ambition, and behind them all the impelling motive to improve and enlarge their possessions in land within and about the borders of the city, the location and environs of which gave promise from the first stage of its existence of its future greatness among the commercial and social centres of the world. In any consideration of the character of the people who thus laid the foundation of Philadelphia the fact should be ever borne in mind that they were all thrifty and that many of them were compara-



DREXEL INSTITUTE.





tively well off in the old world. They came with money, some with a considerable amount, others with not so much and others yet with a very little. The fact should not be overlooked that no small number of these first Philadelphians had bought their land from Penn in Europe, dealing either with the proprietor of Pennsylvania direct or with his agents. There was no room for impecunious settlers or for squatters. The latter class could find no place on the site of the coming city. The just but business-like proprietor valued that portion of his territory which was to be the scene of his future city too highly to encourage any class of people as immigrants save those who had either the means to buy when he sold the land so cheaply, or who had with their industry and frugal habits the promise of success in obtaining means which would enable them to possess a home and obtain a comfortable livelihood in the new world.

The wide range of choice which Penn exercised in promoting immigration to his colony and the judicious character he displayed in selecting the fields of operation speak much for the liberality of his mind as well as for his knowledge of human nature. He seems to have been wholly devoid of narrowness and of prejudice. The brotherhood of humanity was strongly illustrated in his acts and in his dealings with men. It mattered not that persons spoke a language different from that of his own land if they were persecuted, devout and lowly, seeking to rise from the condition in which the circumstances of the times had placed them. He offered asylum to them all, and when the current of immigration started in the several countries of Europe and converged at Philadelphia, on the western shore of the Delaware, resulting in the almost magical rise of that great city, there was the first realization of what afterwards became a fact of universal recognition and of patriotic sentiment, the demonstrable truth that America was the home of the persecuted of every clime. The benevolent heart and the generous mind of Penn gathered into the colony those who were attracted to him on account of his shining qualities, and, on the theory that like attracts like, the first American city was built on a foundation of benevolence and of liberality which have characterized the lives of its people through all the generations from the date of its formation down to this day.

The history of Philadelphia in the early period of its existence, from whatever standpoint, as well as the correspondence of the day, abound with evidence of the delight experienced by strangers on first beholding the city and its surrounding territory. The care with which it was planned, the regard displayed for the health and the comfort of

the inhabitants and the interest evinced for the welfare of citizens generally, are among the most creditable and the most praiseworthy of the traits of character exhibited by Penn. In his consideration of the original plan of the city he sought to preserve for each house a spacious yard "that it may be a green country town which will never be burnt and always be wholesome." It would perhaps be difficult to find words of equal number which could serve to more clearly or more graphically illustrate the high and the unselfish ideas of the proprietor of Pennsylvania in connection with the construction of Philadelphia. The health, the comfort and the welfare of the people for all time were uppermost in the mind of Penn when the city was projected and the example thus set by the proprietor himself has been followed ever since by the descendants of the early citizens and contemporaries of the leader of the Quaker sect. It is not alone the unrivalled location of the city, with its background of gentle, wooded elevations to the north and to the west and the broad, stately stream on the east curving slightly southwest and then with faint deflection southeast and forming a perceptible bow of the opposite New Jersey shore, but the charm of the shaded streets, the splendor of its spacious and well-planted squares, the ever fresh and cleanly appearance of its houses which attract the attention and captivate the fancy of visitors, of tourists, and of its own citizens who may roam over the world and return with the consciousness that its like has not been seen and that its beauty never wanes.

From the date of the formation of the city almost it became great and famous. The character of the peoples who came to the Pennsylvanian shore both at the time and in the wake of the arrival of Penn was a guarantee of the success of its future. With the numerous skilled and industrious craftsmen belonging to the most thrifty and most ingenious of the races of the earth pressing forward, eager to work with hands and brain and clear the land and make valuable the homesteads they had bought, it cannot be surprising that Philadelphia easily became, in less than six years from its beginning, the greatest city in America, as well as the largest centre of manufacture, a position she has maintained ever since. To Penn the rapid growth of the town seems to have been ever a source of surprise. He had not been on the soil of his new possessions one year and the city had not celebrated its first anniversary when the proprietor wrote to the Marquis of Halifax: "I must without vanity say that I have led the greatest colony into America that ever any man did upon private credit and the most prosperous beginnings that ever were in it are to be found among us."

This statement, betokening so much satisfaction on the part of the

SOUTHERN HOME FOR DESTITUTE CHILDREN.







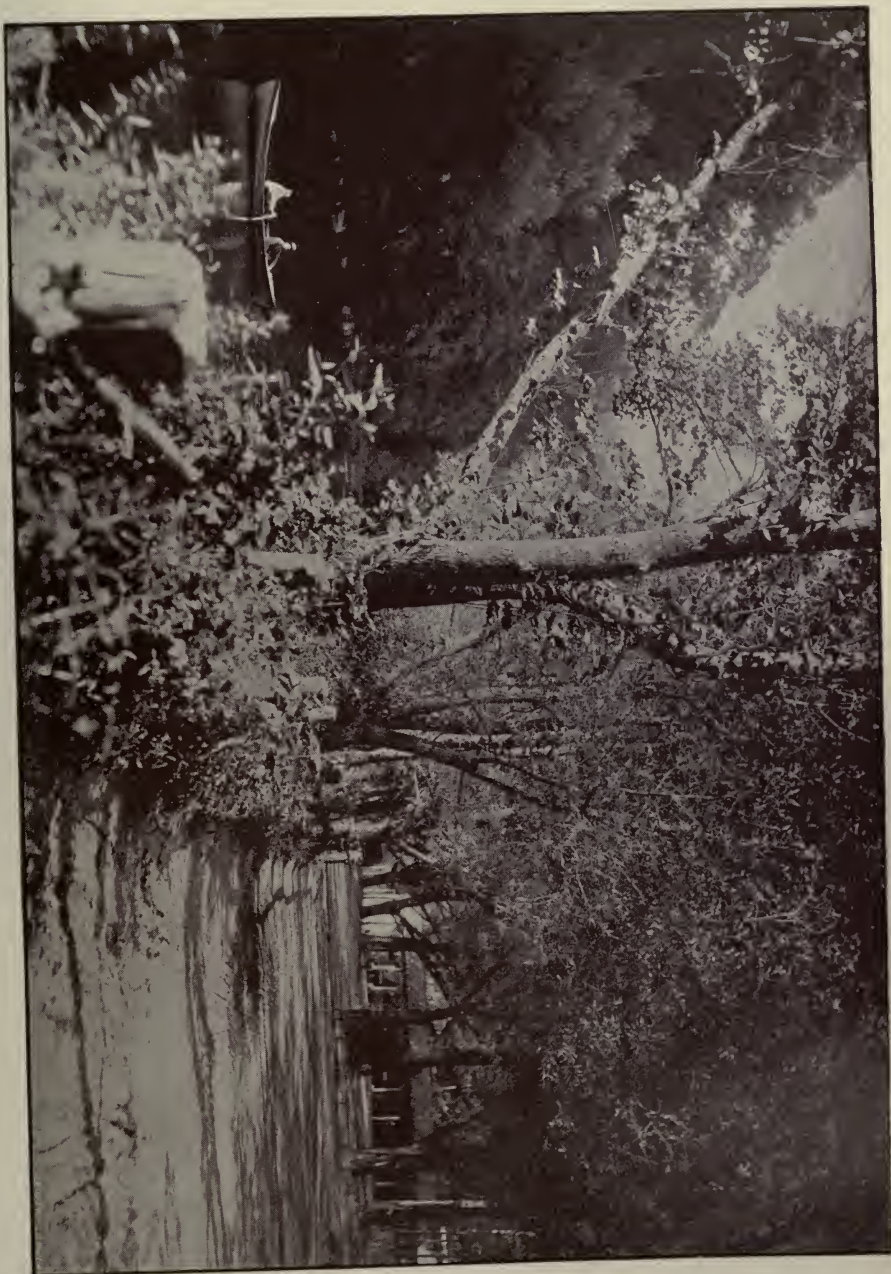
proprietor over the condition of the new city, was made when Philadelphia was in the height of activity as a young, pushing, hopeful beginner. In the year in which it was founded, sixteen hundred and eighty-two, which was also the year of Penn's arrival from England, twenty-three ships bringing colonists, chiefly from English ports, sailed up the Delaware; and the records show that there were more than one thousand persons landed at the several newly-constructed wharves before the beginning of sixteen hundred and eighty-three. The colonists arrived so rapidly that houses could not be found in sufficient number to shelter them, and, adapting themselves to the condition of the time and the spirit of the occasion, they dug caves in the high banks of the Delaware and of the Schuylkill and lived in reasonable comfort until they were able to secure or to construct dwellings.

The beginning and the subsequent rapid growth of the manufacturing interests of Philadelphia were natural results of the wisdom displayed in the selection of the colonists in the old world. It seems almost incredible, in view of the length of time required for the establishment on a firm basis of the colony at Jamestown and the settlement in Massachusetts, that within seven years after the founding of Philadelphia a number of mills and factories had been constructed and were in operation within what are now the limits of Philadelphia. The list included a paper mill on the Schuylkill, where William Bradford and Samuel Carpenter produced the heavy fibrous material which attest the skill and honesty of the workmanship and material employed in some of the carefully preserved old publications to be seen in several of the libraries of Philadelphia to-day. There was also a mill for the manufacture of woolen goods; and the disposition of the people to encourage such enterprise was shown by the maintenance at the common expense of a flock of sheep which was herded on the meadows in the town by a regularly employed shepherd and several assistants. Among other industries was a notable list of flouring mills, the city and the surrounding country carrying on a brisk commercial trade in this article and in other products with the West Indies and other islands southward. Almost every stream, especially about Germantown and Chester, was the scene of an active business in this line of enterprise; the Swedes being good farmers and large producers of grain. There was likewise a mill which produced a species of oil used as a lubricant; and in addition to these larger means of manufacture there were hundreds of spinning-wheels in the country engaged in the manufacture of stuff from hemp, a work which was universal and not confined to any single nationality.

With all the activity on the part of the people, not only in the new city but in the surrounding villages, it is not surprising that land should rapidly advance in value. The rise in the price of ground was something which may be fairly regarded, in this day after an experience of nearly two centuries, as phenomenal. Sixteen years from the date of the founding of Philadelphia, or in sixteen hundred and ninety-eight, tracts were sold for forty dollars per hundred acres, a rise in value in twelve years of more than one thousand per cent. In the meanwhile every ship captain who came to the town to trade or to bring settlers was an involuntary land promoter. He sailed away and told the story in ports of various countries of the rapid growth of Philadelphia. Captain Richard Norris, in the year sixteen hundred and ninety, being newly arrived from England, observes with wonder the change in the appearance of the city since he saw it last. So many houses had been built in his absence that the ground facing the Delaware river was enclosed, save the passage ways of streets running at right angles with the brick walls. "The Bank and River street is so filled with houses," he writes, "that it makes an inclosed street with the Front in many places which before lay open to the river Delaware."



WISSAHICKON CREEK AND DRIVE.







## CHAPTER VI.

THE APPROACH OF THE REVOLUTION—WANING POWER OF THE PENNS—TROUBLES WHICH BESET THE FOUNDER—OFFER OF THE SONS TO MEDIATE BETWEEN AMERICA AND ENGLAND—THE STAMP ACT AND ITS EFFECT—FIRST MOVE FOR THE UNION OF THE COLONIES.

THERE is so much to say about this new city founded by Penn—this magical settlement in the wonderland, as it seems to the Europeans. Penn himself is a busy figure in these early days. He flits hither and thither, now addressing a Quaker meeting at Upland or at Southwark and next conferring with the Deputy Governor and his Council and others whom he has placed in authority. There is no rest for this man of high hopes and aspirations. The proprietor and universal benefactor of a colony that is rapidly growing too large and too complex even for one possessed of so much executive capacity and tact as himself, he finds unlooked-for difficulties arising here and there and much to annoy and harass his cheerful spirit. Some of the order-loving Quakers, craving the sound sleep which the maxim-makers attribute to a good conscience, find their peace disturbed by certain “disorderly bands of wild Indians,” who appear to have acquired the habit of coming to town for the sole object of partaking of that fiery liquid, the accompaniment of civilization, which burns but quenches not thirst, the effect of which upon the uncultured savages is such as to cause the grievously annoyed wearers of drab to complain to the Council and ask that something be done to put a stop to the acts of “these yelling Indians who go through the streets and disturb the rest of people at night.”

Penn, the proprietor, must not only respectfully hear this and kindred complaints, but he must do his best to remedy the grievance. Behind the scene of all the ceremonious trappings of Deputy Governors and officials who acknowledge his authority there is the thorny road of continuous fault-finding and dissatisfaction, the discord of factions, and envy, jealousy and bitterness in his official family. With a calm mind and remarkable patience he does his utmost to keep things smooth and succeeds suprisingly well considering the stuff he has to deal with. For, human nature, the same essentially the world over, is not to be supposed to have been different among Penn’s colonists, the founders of Philadelphia and Pennsylvania, made up as they were of representa-

tives of the firmest elements, in a social and religious sense, of the most progressive and enlightened of European nations.

Besides, Penn has his own private troubles, the principal of which seems to be a wild son, William, the only boy by his first wife, who ultimately crosses the water and comes to his father's city on a sort of holiday excursion, and, being petted and fêted, gets into the company of a rather wild set and distinguishes himself by beating the night watch who had cautioned him to be more orderly on the street, for which act he is presented at court and indicted for assault by the severe and mirth-condemning Friends, much to the grief of his father, who feels that his family deserved better from the hands of the men whom he led into the American wilderness. It appears also he has a son-in-law, one Aubrey, a mean-spirited man, who marries his daughter Letitia, called by her father "Tish," and who becomes angry when he finds he cannot sell rapidly enough the lots near the Delaware front which Father-in-law Penn gave to his daughter as her marriage portion, and he equalizes matters by charging his wife's father interest on the money unrealized as yet from the sale of the land. That Penn should become angry at the baseness of this son-in-law, as we read, it is not strange, nor can it seem surprising that, in view of the troubles and the cares which possessed him, aggravated by the bickerings and dissensions among the colonists and the officials over them, his mind should give way some time before his death in England, in the year seventeen hundred and eighteen. Well was it for the pious and noble-hearted son of the old admiral, the abused and persecuted seceder from the Church of England, that his earthly course closed when it did, for there was the shadow of a black cloud rising over the fair prospect of Penn and of his native clime,—a cloud destined to sweep over all the American land with cyclonic fury, tearing away and bearing in its grasp the rights of kings and of royally chartered proprietors alike, never to be restored so long as the ringing words of a Declaration of Independence and the bell-tones of a proclamation of liberty have meaning and force. Yet what trouble is entailed upon the descendants of the generous-hearted proprietor—the sons by his second wife, Hannah Callowhill—who inherit the American possessions! Lonely and care-burdened woman! She sees the growing feeling of unrest among the colonists as the rapidly expanding city of Philadelphia increases in size and in commercial importance, and she becomes displeased at the governor, Sir William Keith, who appears to truckle to the populace and to not display the concern he should for the interests of the family of Penn. Furthermore, there has lately come to Philadel-





502. Supreme Court, Philade.

SUPREME COURT ROOM, CITY HALL.





phia a mischievous spirit, a young New England printer hailing from Boston, one Benjamin Franklin, who seems to have an unusual amount of curiosity, and toward whom the governor seems to show rather too much consideration. This Franklin is a ready writer, and has the making of a busy man of affairs. Altogether there is about him a thoroughly American spirit, and if persons possessed of the gift of divination look deeply enough they may see in him traces of a contempt for royalty as well as for royally commissioned proprietors of American colonies. But what is this Franklin's object? He cultivates everybody, makes friends every where, but is not found making any particularly extravagant professions of friendship for the Penn family. If Hannah Penn distrusts him, it may be her woman's intuition tells her that the development of too much freedom of thought and action in an American colony is not alone bad for the authority of the king, but likewise detrimental to the rights of the proprietor of the land who enjoys his possessions by the grace of the sovereign. And the young man Franklin stands typical of American independence and self-reliance,—a rather unpleasant figure for those who dwell across the water and desire their authority to be respected in the American wilderness. All the more unpleasant since the background to his towering figure is a raw, unbroken country not to the liking of this second wife of Penn any more than it is to her daughter "Tish," both of whom importuned the proprietor to return to his native land after his second visit to his possessions in sixteen hundred and ninety-nine, not content to spend their days in the new country. The sojourn of nearly two years at the manor house, Pennsbury, in Bucks County, proved enough for the tenderly reared wife and daughter of England, and with business complications in Europe added to their entreaties the active and patient founder of America's greatest colony yielded to their wishes and sailed away, nevermore to behold the land of his fondest hopes and most cherished objects.

Nevertheless, the colonists are people of honor. They will not disregard proprietary rights unless there shall be great provocation. With all the growth and expansion of Philadelphia and the colony of Pennsylvania, the interest of the Penns were respected up to the time of the breaking out of the war of the Revolution. In the year seventeen hundred and sixty-seven Thomas Penn, who, with Richard, became proprietor of Pennsylvania, speaks of the colony wishing to buy them out, thus making evident the fact that up to within a very short period of the date when circumstances brought about the Declaration of Independence the patient colonists still respected the rights of the

Penns. There is something sad in the spectacle of the waning influence and the diminishing figures of these sons of Penn as they stand on the verge of the Revolution, looking this way and that, as men bewildered, not knowing what to do or whither to turn, but finally coming to their senses sufficiently to face the thoroughly aroused and angered American populace, and request in calm, quiet tones to be allowed to act as mediators between England and the colonies! Philadelphia, the city their father had founded, was the seat of the Revolution and, as it afterward was called, the Cradle of Liberty. It was truly a stiff-necked band that had settled the greatest of American provinces. The new city in the colony, whose founder had stood so close to the king, was the scene of the first American Congress; it was the scene of the adoption of the Declaration of Independence, of the proclamation of the liberty of all the colonies, of the devising and the adoption of the national emblem after Britain's ensign had been cast to the winds, and finally it was the spot which gave birth to the American Navy which did such aggressive work against the sea rovers of the mother land at a later period. Well might the Penn boys feel exercised over the situation, and natural it was they should wish to mediate. But the days for mediation had passed, as well as the days for obedience to the voice of a proprietor of Pennsylvania. The last tones of the sons of Penn in their plea for peace is drowned by the roar of musketry at Lexington and Concord, and their rapidly vanishing faces are obscured by the dust raised by the foaming steed of Paul Revere in his long, mad ride on his mission to arouse the Colonies, from Boston to the Quaker City on the Delaware.

One more glance at ancient Philadelphia before it assumes its position of pre-eminence as the seat of a new national government and finds its peaceful past obscured by the blinding storm of a fierce Revolution. Its rapid growth and development as a commercial city has been mentioned. In comparison with the other two colonies—Jamestown in Virginia and Plymouth in Massachusetts—its progress seems magical. It provided a means for the education of its children one year after the city was founded, or in sixteen hundred and eighty-three; and Master Enoch Flower, was engaged to teach the young for a small consideration. Later there was started an institution destined to become famous, to which the proprietor gave the use of his name. Thus the William Penn Charter School, standing as living, vital evidence of the high estimate placed by the original Philadelphia Quakers on the training of the minds of their youth, and rearing its modern walls of substantial brick alongside the ancient





GIRARD COLLEGE.





structure that served its purpose up until within a recent period in this generation, was started under the patronizing eye of the founder seven years after the settlement of the city, or in sixteen hundred and eighty-nine. And so fully did it meet the approbation of Penn—who looked upon it apparently as a proud sponsor would regard a youthful namesake—that on the last of the three occasions when he was called upon to charter it, in the years 1701, 1708 and 1711, he graciously set forth that, “I hereby will and ordain and by these presents do assign, nominate, constitute and appoint my trusty and well-beloved friends Samuel Carpenter, the elder Edward Shippen, Griffith Owen, Thomas Storey, Anthony Morris, Richard Hill, Isaac Norris, Samuel Preston, Jonathan Dickenson, Nathan Stanbury, Thomas Masters, Nicholas Walm, Caleb Pusey, Rowland Ellis and James Logan to be the present overseers of the said school. In Virginia there was no printing-press until after the lapse of a period of more than one hundred years after the settlement at Jamestown; in New York there was none until seventy-three years from the time of its colonization, and Massachusetts lacked the same instrument of civilization for a period of eighteen years from the date of the landing at Plymouth Rock, while Philadelphia had a press and an intelligent printer in the person of William Bradford within four years of the time of the settlement of the city. In the various branches of industry she likewise took the lead of all other cities. She had brickyards, cotton mills, paper mills and woolen factories before they were known in any other portion of the continent, and her enterprise in this respect has continued, enabling her to still keep her place as the largest manufacturing city in America.

Thus for her industries, her enterprise, and her resources. So many things are happening now in this era of Stamp Acts and provincial ire and excitement that the Quaker City,—“Penn’s Experiment,” as it was formerly known in Europe,—is fast losing its identity, and promises to lose what is more, its character, at least for loyalty to the king. What is the meaning of the universal muttering and the oneness of thought and the unity of action among men—tradesmen, merchants, carpenters, and officials? They are doing strange things in these unrestful days, and the king and the mother land are mentioned only with defiance and bitterness. The people seem rebellious. They are saving up and preparing for some anticipated ordeal. They are opposed to all things foreign,—that is, commodities,—since Britain has decreed they shall be taxed. They will buy no tea nor dress goods, and all ships attempting to come into port with cargoes are warned that they had best seek other waters. The Hibernia Fire Company

has resolved, from motives of economy, "not to eat any lamb this season nor to drink any foreign beer," a sacrifice that could only be brought about by an extraordinary state of things, since it is not apparent that the members of the company were transformed into either vegetarians or total abstainers, but only acted thus "in order to reduce the present high price of mutton and encourage the breweries of Pennsylvania." Franklin, the printer, foreign agent of the Colonies in London, had given his fellow Americans their cue in his answer during his examination before the House of Commons in connection with sundry controversies over the Stamp Act: "What used to be the pride of the Americans?" he was asked; and the answer came as neatly as if the question had been previously fitted to it: "To indulge in the fashions and manufactures of Great Britain." "What is now their pride?" "To wear their old clothes over again until they can make new ones."

A certain John Hughes has been appointed stamp distributor, but the people will not let him touch the obnoxious things. They have burnt him in effigy, and it is not unlikely that if he falls into their hands there will be an incineration of a genuine sort. When the stamps finally reach New Castle he is afraid to touch them. A mob surrounds his house, beats muffled drums, jeers and taunts him, and demands that he resign the hated office. The son of Chief Justice Allen leads the band, and thus adorns the marauding expedition with the semblance of a high judicial sanction. A committee formally reiterates the demand for the stamp agent's resignation; its members, Robert Morris, James Tilghman, Charles Thompson, Archibald McCall, John Cox, William Richards, and William Bradford, representing the wealth and respectability of Philadelphia. Hughes, with a disposition to ignore the extent of the dissatisfaction, writes an explanatory letter and naively says the trouble was stirred up by the Presbyterians,—as if Quakers, Baptists, Episcopalians and the like were not equally affected by the imposition of the stamp duty!

The leaven of disaffection works throughout all the colonies, and at the suggestion of James Otis, of Massachusetts, it is proposed to hold a Congress of the Colonies in New York on the second Tuesday of November in the year seventeen hundred and sixty-five. In the meanwhile, everywhere throughout the provinces, merchants and traders are signing agreements not to import anything from abroad. The Philadelphians sign the compact in October, countermanding all orders for British goods until the Stamp Act shall have been repealed. That the agreement may be carried into effect and not be a mere empty thing a Committee is appointed, made up of Thomas Willing, Samuel





View of the New Buildings and Boys' Play-Ground, Girard College.





Mifflin, Thomas Montgomery, Samuel Howell, Samuel Wharton, John Rhea, William Fisher, Joshua Fisher, Peter Chevalier, Benjamin Fuller and Abel James. The relailers likewise take similar action and appoint as their Committee John Ord, Francis Wade, Joseph Deane, David Deshler, George Bartram, Andrew Doz, George Schlosser, James Hunter, Thomas Paschall, Thomas West and Valentine Charles. Blanks were printed countermanding orders for goods, and with the signatures of the dealers attached were forwarded to the respective houses with which they dealt in England.

There is something practical in this universal non-importation agreement. Bound by mutual grievances and mutual interests, the colonies are steadily, though imperceptibly, preparing for ultimate union. The year seventeen hundred and seventy finds the retaliation scheme disturbed. New York recedes from all the non-importing agreements save those relating to tea, and forthwith the blood of Philadelphia is aroused. Philadelphia's anger finds vent in an indignation meeting in the State House, at which one Joseph Fox presides, and puts resolutions denouncing the action of New York as "sordid and wanton and tending to weaken the Union of the Colonies." Non-intercourse with New York is resolved upon and a card is published in one of the newspapers with the ironical proposition: "The inhabitants of the city of Philadelphia present their compliments to the inhabitants of New York and beg they will send their Old Liberty Pole as they can, by their late conduct, have no further use for it."

Thus does the city of Penn pay its respects to its rival, whose "Liberty Pole" seems not inappropriate in the possession of the town which already has what is destined to be known throughout civilization as the Liberty Bell, a relic to be preserved and revered by future generations and not, like the aforesaid Liberty Pole, forgotten or mislaid in the hurry and activity of varied mercantile and commercial pursuits, alike distracting and profitable, notwithstanding the lack of stimulating effect produced by the elimination of tea from the household luxuries of the New York trader.







UNION LEAGUE.





## CHAPTER VII.

THE GOLDEN ERA OF THE PRINTER—AMERICAN SPIRIT AROUSED IN PHILADELPHIA—  
NO COMPROMISE WITH THE TEA COMMISSIONERS—THREATENING AND INCENDIARY  
HAND-BILLS—HARD FATE OF THE SHIP "POLLY" AND HER CAPTAIN—A HELPING  
HAND TO BOSTON—INAUGURATING THE MOVE FOR THE FIRST CONGRESS.

EVERYWHERE in the American Colonies now men are rising and asserting the superiority of common rights over the decree of despotic power. There is much speech-making, many inflammatory appeals, and the printers were never so busy; likewise there is an abundance of epistolary talent shown, and an unusual amount of irony and sarcasm which might otherwise have lain dormant. New York with its Liberty Pole, which emblematic piece of wood seems to have lost something of its virtue since the thrifty-minded traders of that city broke their pledge in connection with the non-importation agreement, is not the only target of the satirical and incendiary patriot. He directs his batteries on the tea commissioners, on the customs officers and on the captains of merchant ships. There are many anonymous handbills, replete with threats of a nature to curdle the blood and to make strong men hesitate. A certain Ebenezer Richardson, a Boston customs officer, having come to the city of Penn to exercise his official functions, was so thoroughly denounced by the press and by the ever ready handbills that he found it prudent to fly the city to escape the discomfort and ignominy of a coat of tar and feathers.

Then there was the sensational event in connection with the ship "Polly," which lost all the affectionate significance of the diminutive in its name by reason of the fact that it sailed from London with a load of tea and was in due time expected up the Delaware. The "Polly," in the long weeks intervening from the time of her leaving port in the Thames to the date of her expected arrival at Philadelphia, assumed as many hated forms as the fabled monster of old, and in her invisibility produced the effect of lashing the patriot American into the very white heat of fury, as well as creating an era of glory for the printer, being good for so many different handbills launching forth invectives and threats of dire punishment that the press is kept busy night and day and the skilled operator can have practically his own terms. There are posters and circulars addressed to various classes of citizens.

One directed to tradesmen, mechanics and artisans warns them in self-defence to not temporize with the abhorred East India Company but to meet it on the very threshold: "Be, therefore, my dear fellow tradesman, prudent, be watchful, be determined to let no motive induce you to favor the accursed scheme. Reject every proposal but a repealing act; let not their baneful commodity enter your city. Treat every aider or abettor with ignominy, contempt, etc., and let your deportment prove to the world that we will be free indeed."

As the time draws nigh for the detested "Polly" to appear in the lower Delaware another handbill is sent broadcast addressed to the pilots; coaxing, patronizing and threats curiously mingled, and the tone altogether impetuous and fiery. "We need not point out," says the incendiary effusion, "the step you ought to take if the tea ship falls in your way. You cannot be at a loss how to prevent, or, if that cannot be done, how to give the merchants of the city timely notice of her arrival. But this you may depend on, that whatever pilot brings her into the river, such pilot shall be marked for his treason and will never afterward meet with the least encouragement in his business. Like *Cain*, he will be hung out as a spectacle to all nations, and be forever recorded as the damned traitorous pilot who brought up the tea ship. This, however, cannot be the case with you. You have proved scourges to evil-doers, to infamous informers and tide-waiters, and we may venture to predict that you will give us a faithful and satisfactory account of the tea ship if you should meet with her, and that your zeal on this occasion will entitle you to any favor it may be in the power of the merchants of Philadelphia to confer upon you."

A not very pleasing prospect for the pilot of the Delaware to contemplate! The circular is signed, "The Committee for tarring and feathering." There cannot be much doubt that the committee means business and that it possesses or can easily obtain the ingredients which enter into the product of the article with which it is intended to clothe the recreant pilot who has the misfortune to fall into its hands. There is a postscript to the circular explaining that "This ship with the tea on board is called the 'Polly,' Captain Ayres, and left Gravesend on the 27th of September, so that she may be hourly expected." Later a supplemental bill appears and informs the pilots that the "Polly" is a three-decker and incidentally reminds them of the horror of a coat of tar and feathers. A third circular is addressed to Captain Ayres, through the unhappy pilots, and warns him of the danger both to himself and his ship if he persists in coming into port. "You are sent out on a diabolical service," it says, "and if you are so foolish and





General View of the Buildings of the UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA.





obstinate as to complete your voyage by bringing your ship to anchor in this port you may run such a gauntlet as will induce you in your last moments most heartily to curse those who have made you the dupe of their avarice and ambition. What think you, Captain, of a halter round your neck, ten gallons of liquid tar decanted on your pate, with the feathers of a dozen wild geese laid over that to enliven your appearance?"

It does not appear that the captain finds himself able to answer the proposition so cheerfully submitted to his consideration, but there is some reason to believe that he does not relish tar, and that if any decanting is to be done he would prefer it should be in a social way in the security of his cabin, or in the office or house of some gentleman who will observe the amenities of life. The gleeful printer keeps on with the work which an impatient public provides for him. A card follows the circular to the captain, bearing the "compliments of the public to Messrs. James & Drinker," and notifying them that they are expected to withdraw as consignees of the tea. It is quickly followed by another bill addressed to the pilots and assuming to give a careful description of the much-talked-about "Polly," an erroneous impression having got abroad concerning her build and appearance. It seems she is not a three-deck vessel, "but an old black ship without any head or ornament. The captain is a short, fat fellow, and a little obstinate withal. So much the worse for him; for as sure as he rides rusty we shall have him keel out and see that he be well rubbed and fired and paid"—nautical terms which, doubtless, have a terrible meaning for the ears of the captain, but which are unfortunately lost on laymen. "We know him well," says this fright-breeding circular, "and have calculated to a gill and a feather how much it will take to fit him for an American Exhibition."

Amidst all the fire and inflammation of human passion and spirit the thoroughly notorious "Polly" arrives at Chester—on a Christmas day of all times! how and by whom steered up the river is unknown, fortunately for the "traitorous pilot." Gilbert Barclay, one of the consignees who came from London with her, comes up to Philadelphia in advance of the vessel, and faces a thoroughly aroused and unmistakably angered multitude. The Committee waits upon him and acquaints him with the state of things, learning which he resigns his commission, much to the delight of the patriots, who at once take him to their bosoms. The work is not done yet, nevertheless, for there is the obnoxious "Polly" at Chester, to which place three Committeemen at once repair, while three more hasten to Gloucester Point. There

Captain Ayres, who had left Chester, is hailed, and going on shore in accordance with an urgent invitation, he finds a crowd of people who make a lane along which he may pass, though not without affording him an opportunity to observe and learn more about the determination of the American character than he ever saw or knew before. He meets the Committee and is informed of the condition of things, and warned of his danger. The "Polly" lies at anchor while the captain goes up to Philadelphia with the Committee, and there faces a crowd of eight thousand indignant and excited Americans, including an unusual number of the youth of the town who are in high glee over the prospect of lending a hand in the business of tarring and feathering.

But the captain does not wish to put them to the trouble which such exertion would involve, and in fact proves to be a very mild and compliant English skipper at this moment, whatever he may be on shipboard among his men when the weather is fair and his sense of autocratic power is uppermost. If the hated tea ship lying down off Gloucester, unconscious of all these weeks of angry discussion, anticipation and excitement, were endowed with the power of speech, she might plead surprise at what she would probably consider the undue importance of the position in which she was placed, but being only an inanimate thing, "an old black ship," as the hand-bill described her, she had nothing to do but lie silent in the waters of the Delaware and await her fate, which was yet uncertain. First, there must be a meeting in the State House, a citizens' meeting two days after Christmas, or on the 27th of December, at ten o'clock in the morning, to take action on this most exciting episode. When the time came the crowd was too large, and the meeting had to adjourn to the State House yard, winter though it was. Captain Ayres, a thorough American and a patriot by this time—having been with the Committee long enough and observed the character of the people sufficiently to undergo the process of transformation without a murmur—attended the meeting and made a hero of himself by agreeing to comply with all the resolutions adopted thereat; the most important being a provision that he should leave town on the day following, going aboard his vessel and making the best of his way out of "our river and bay," a requirement which the commander of the "Polly" faithfully carried out with the assistance of a committee of four Philadelphian gentlemen appointed to see to it that he did not fail to comply with the letter and spirit of the command.

It is now nothing but excitement, uneasy perturbation, combative-





INTERIOR OF DREXEL INSTITUTE.



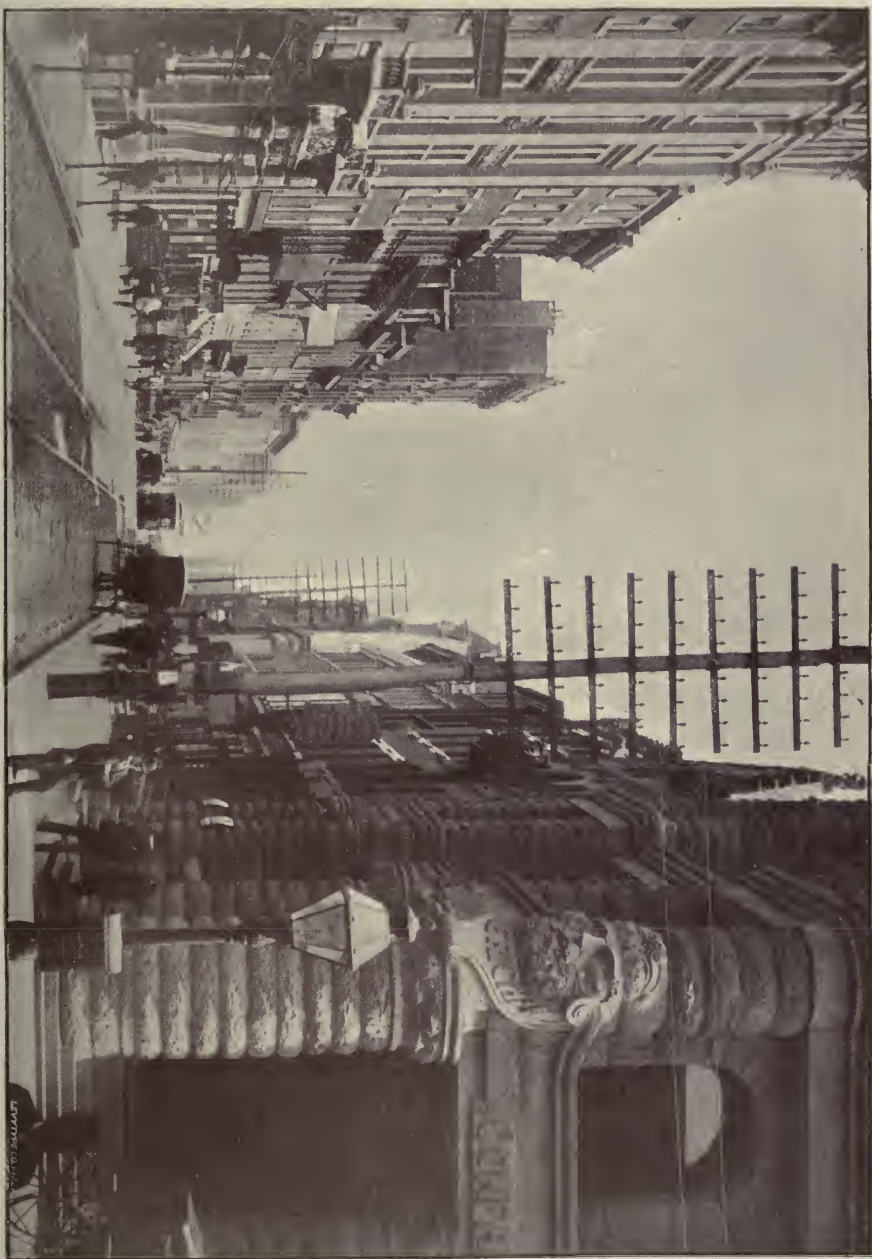


ness, denunciatory speeches, defiance of royal authority and non-resistance of all measures looking toward the collection by England of any customs duties. In all the colonies it was the same, the difference being only that of location. Orators and pamphleteers found all they had to say listened to with eagerness and read with avidity. The thoughts and the eyes of all turned toward Philadelphia. Paul Revere, when he was sent out by the people of Boston, after the closing of their port by royal order, to secure help was charged to go to the city of Penn. He was received with open-hearted hospitality and a meeting was called on the day after his arrival in the city tavern. The town was so thoroughly American, so thoroughly patriotic, and so palpably determined to resist injustice and oppression that the other cities and colonies received inspiration and courage from her example and learned to look to her for aid, for counsel and for support. Momentous movement this, inaugurated by the meeting in the city tavern! Charles Thomson, John Dickinson, Joseph Reed and Thomas Mifflin were prominent figures in the affair; the former two proceeding cautiously and with conservatism in order to make a favorable impression on the Quakers, whose assistance they needed, both active and passive. Likewise they wanted an extra session of the Legislature called and issued a petition to the Governor asking him to convene that body, a request which was at first refused but which found the object it sought accomplished two or three days later, when the executive convened the law-making chamber ostensibly for the purpose of taking action on matters connected with Indian raids on the border,—a circumstance which proved that the Governor, with his large number of conservative Quaker constituents who did not believe in extraordinary sessions of the legislative body, was something of a diplomat as well as a politician.

At the meeting in the city tavern there was formed a committee on correspondence entrusted with the duty of writing to the different colonies and especially to the people of Boston. When Paul Revere left for his Massachusetts home he carried with him not only a grateful impression of the hospitality and good will of the people of Philadelphia, but a letter tendering to the citizens of his town their sympathy, and their commendation of the conduct of the descendants of the Puritans for the fortitude they had shown in the period of their troubles and distress. Boston had risen immensely in the estimation of Philadelphia when she threw the British tea overboard in the harbor, and now that she was paying the penalty of her act the city of Penn was ready to assume close relations with her and act promptly for the furtherance of mutual interests.

The closing of the port of Boston is having its effect on all sides and the American spirit is thoroughly aroused. The name of George III. has long since become odious to the colonists who have got into the habit of mentioning their sovereign with contempt not only in private conversation but in public gatherings. Has not Patrick Henry in the House of Burgesses in Virginia set the example of the privilege which a subject, especially an American subject, may avail himself in the way of denouncing the king? Not strange, then, that tradesmen and mechanics should also be fired by something of the same spirit which prompted the Virginian orator to speak as he did. Here, following on the heels of the departure of Paul Revere for Boston with his consolatory letter, is another meeting of Philadelphians in session on this eighteenth day of June, year seventeen hundred and seventy-four. The mechanics, who are a large and influential body, especially the Association of Carpenters—having a fine brick hall of their own in a good location—have appointed a committee to confer and co-operate with the merchants' committee, the mechanics' representatives being John Ross, William Rush, Plunket Fleeson, Edward Duffield, Anthony Morris, Jr., Robert Smith, Isaac Howell, Thomas Pryor, David Rittenhouse, William Masters and Jacob Barge. Let the reader note carefully the proceedings of this meeting, or rather of the series of meetings which began on the 10th of June. On that day representative Philadelphians have assembled in Philosophical Hall, the head-quarters of the society founded by Benjamin Franklin fifty years before, on Second street, to map out work for the mass meeting. What is this proposition which is offered and which finds such ready acquiescence?—a general Congress of all the colonies! What will King George say when he hears of this unheard-of and unauthorized proceeding? A general Congress of the colonies at this time means mischief. And as if it were not enough to propose a step so radical, it is suggested that Pennsylvania proceed to elect her delegates to the Congress through the Assembly. But the Governor will not call the Assembly in extra session this time, whereupon the members of that body have the effrontery to meet without being called by the Governor, and to elect the delegates to the proposed Congress. The work is assuming such a formidable look that the necessities of the immediate future rise to their proper proportions and present themselves with startling urgency and vividness. The eighteenth day of June comes and then, formally and well matured, certain resolutions are presented and adopted. One declares the closing of the port of Boston is unconstitutional, and that in view of that and other things it is expedient to convoke a Con-





WALNUT STREET, looking east from Fourth Street.





tinental Congress. Philadelphia, through its town meeting, is fulfilling its promise to Paul Revere and the people of Boston. The Puritan City wanted sympathy and co-operation in the hour of trouble, and now she shall find her desire is not in vain.

The meeting does many practical things. Having resolved there is necessity for a Continental Congress it sets about to prepare means for calling it. A Committee on correspondence for the city and county is appointed, forty-three in number, John Dickinson, chairman, with instructions to take the sense of the people on the question of the appointment of delegates to the Congress, and further to solicit subscriptions for the relief of the sufferers in Boston. The session closes, and the Committee on correspondence begins its work. Its first meeting is in Carpenters' Hall, on the fifteenth day of July, Thomas Willing, presiding, and Charles Thomson, secretary. There are ringing declarations of rights in this convention, and much plain speaking. The English Parliament is condemned, the united action of the colonies and a colonial Congress are recommended, and Pennsylvania is pledged to co-operate with the other provinces. Also, the Assembly is requested to appoint deputies to the Congress, a request which that body complies with when it meets a few days later, naming as the delegates, Joseph Galloway, Samuel Rhoads, Thomas Mifflin, Charles Humphreys, George Ross and Edward Biddle. Philadelphia has done its part; the fire has been kindled. The reader shall see how the colonies outside Pennsylvania are influenced by its progressive and radical example.







Bird's-eye View of FAIRMOUNT PARK and the BOAT HOUSES on the SCHUYLKILL.





## CHAPTER VIII.

EXCITING TIMES IN PHILADELPHIA—ASSEMBLING OF THE FIRST CONGRESS—STRONG IMPRESSION PRODUCED BY THE VIRGINIANS—WASHINGTON AMONG THE DELEGATES—NEWS OF THE BRITISH ATTACK AT LEXINGTON AND CONCORD AND THE RESULT—SECOND AND THIRD SESSIONS OF CONGRESS—THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE.

IN these troublous days there is for the patriot and the daring violator of the rights of the King and of his deputies a certain fascination in the consciousness of approaching events which must end all; which must dispel uncertainty and either destroy utterly or secure absolutely the liberties of the colonists on the American land. Things have gone too far for the hope of forgiveness on either side; the grievance must be fought out and the question settled once for all. The stiff-necked Philadelphians, with their flaming appeals to their fellow-citizens, their uncompromising, systematic warfare against the interests of English importers, and their astounding spirit of independence, not to say defiance, are the worst of the lot, and the King and the Parliament both have their eyes on them. It is now the Penn boys are uneasy, feeling, perhaps, that it was, after all, a great mistake of their lamented ancestor to put his money and his labor into a place which only grew to be rebellious and infamous, and, if the truth were known, they are, perhaps, a little apprehensive lest the King shall point to the bad fruits of old William's colonization scheme and visit his displeasure upon the heads of his progeny. That business with the "Polly" was an overt act and is certain to have consequences. Captain Ayres will have his story to tell, beyond doubt, the moment he touches an English port, and although the affair was bad enough it is more than probable the abused skipper, sailing under the flag of England and yet tossed about like a football at the behest of a rough Philadelphian mob, will not allow it to lose anything of its enormity in his narration of the details. That he will have a multitude of sympathizers it is equally sure, especially among the merchants and dealers in stuffs for export;—save, perhaps, those who traffic in tar and its downy accompaniment, the demand for which in America was so persistently enforced upon the notice of the "Polly's" commander, much to his dread and secret apprehension.

Also the English brewers have a right to be displeased, for there is the Hibernia Fire Company resolving to "buy no more foreign beer,"

a decision that doubtless means much in the way of a falling-off in the consumption of the liquid product. This action of the Hibernians may be accepted as an example of sympathetic and practical co-operation with the opponents of tea in their crusade against the mild beverage, though it must in fairness be admitted that the members of the Hibernia are not making a sacrifice equal in degree with that of the tea-drinkers, for, while they have resolved to abstain from drinking "foreign beer," they have also decided to "encourage the brewers of Pennsylvania," an act of magnanimity and patriotism which cannot be emulated by the drinkers of tea since Penn's province is unhappily not able to produce the fragrant herb that has lately been so wastefully bestowed upon sharks and other marine monsters of the harbor of Boston.

There is so much to do in these exciting times when things are moving so rapidly toward a great culmination. The Quaker city finds herself the centre, the vortex of Revolutionary passion, the rendezvous of patriots and agitators alike, the seat of colonial revolt, the very roof-tree of the vastly aroused American populace that looks toward her hospitable and liberty-loving spirit and fixes its hope for the future on the wisdom and courage of her citizens. So, now as the memorable fourth day of September approaches in the year seventeen hundred and seventy-four, when the first Continental Congress shall meet to discuss the state of affairs and take into consideration the question of a plan of action, public interest is at fever heat and the eyes of the world are turned toward the American city on the Delaware. Never before in the ninety-two years of its history has the town of Penn been called upon to meet an emergency like this. It must provide for the comfort and entertainment of a general Congress, at which will be present the most distinguished men of every colony, and the manner in which the delegates shall be cared for will either add to or detract from the credit and fame of the city.

Philadelphia, however, meets the task with readiness and unconcern. There is no evidence of a lack of anything that tends to contribute to the pleasure and well-being of its guests. Now arises on the horizon of American consciousness the names which later become memorable in national history—George Washington, Peyton Randolph, Richard Henry Lee, John Adams, Samuel Adams, John Jay, and many others. The Congress assembles in Carpenter's Hall, the State House being occupied by the Provincial Assembly then in session and therefore not available. Delegates are present from eleven colonies out of thirteen. They are quartered chiefly in the City



ST. AGNES' HOSPITAL.





Tavern, on Second street above Walnut, the hostelry of which Philadelphia boasts since it is considered the finest hotel in America. At ten o'clock in the morning of the eventful day the delegates meet there and walk to the hall which is to be the scene of their deliberations. The citizens are out in force with open, eager eyes and faces betokening uncontrollable interest in the strangers and in the work they have before them. Of all the visiting delegates, those who attract most attention are the Virginians. Fine, tall men, of courtly bearing and dignified manners, their deportment gives an air of grandeur and impressiveness to the assemblage which marks it as a distinguished affair from the beginning. The importance of the Virginian delegation, the representatives of the oldest American colony, is at once conceded in the election of Peyton Randolph as President of the Congress, while Charles Thomson, of Pennsylvania, is made Secretary. A much interested Philadelphian, writing to a friend, says: "We are so taken up with the Congress that we hardly think or talk of anything else. About fifty have come to town and more are expected. There are some fine fellows come from Virginia but they are very high. The Bostonians are mere milksops to them. We understand they are the capital men of the colony both in fortune and understanding."

It is not improbable that the men from Virginia, who are so "very high," are impressed with their importance as delegates from the oldest American province, and are prepared to assert their rights in matters of precedence. The selection of one of their number for President of the Congress doubtless satisfies them, as there is no evidence of any disaffection on any point from their quarter.

The Congress organizes with the officers mentioned, but, being new and untried, does not know itself; sectarianism is rife, and when Thomas Cushing, of Massachusetts, offers a motion to open the session with prayer, Delegates Jay and Rutledge oppose it, being prompted by a desire to not arouse the followers of conflicting beliefs, since the assemblage is made up of Quakers, Episcopalians, Anabaptists, Presbyterians and Congregationalists. The ready mind and prompt action of Samuel Adams, however, saves the Congress from the possibility of a church wrangle in the beginning. He arises, and, with every eye fixed upon him, tells the assemblage that he is no bigot and "can hear a prayer from any gentleman of piety and virtue who is a friend to his country." He moves that the Rev. Mr. Duche be invited to read prayers at the opening of the Congress on the following day, and the motion being carried the clerical gentleman appears at the ap-

pointed time with this clerks and in his pontifical robes and reads several prayers in the established form.

Things are getting out of the hands of the mob into those of a recognized representative body. The Congress fulfills the need and the popular desire of the times. The people observe it moves slowly and with dignity and they are becoming accustomed to look to it to remedy all their wrongs. There is no denunciation of the King in this body. Everything is conservative and Parliamentary. The Congress appeals to Great Britain—a last appeal—for justice to the people of the colonies. It is, nevertheless, not deterred from speaking plainly and firmly on matters of immediate importance to American citizens; and a plea goes forth from it to the residents of all the colonies on behalf of the people of Massachusetts, calling for material aid. There is also positive action taken against importations, and a permanent association is formed in order to insure the observance of a non-importing resolution. Likewise a declaration of rights is adopted; and in addition to this a memorial to the people of Great Britain, setting forth the wrongs the colonies are suffering from and aiming to place the Americans in the right light before the British public.

This constitutes the work of the Congress and it adjourns. The delighted Philadelphians will not let the members return home just yet, however. The city has had its first experience with a national gathering, or what is equivalent to one, and begins to feel accustomed to the business of taking care of large assemblages. The gentlemen of Philadelphia must banquet the Congress in the State House, and the Congress courteously accepts. There are five hundred persons present and the affair is pronounced grand beyond anything hitherto known in the city. After this banquet the Congress must also accept invitation to a dinner in its honor in the City Tavern. The Congress assents to this mark of courtesy likewise, and some of the Quaker citizens participate. John Adams, whose eye is ever observant, notices two of the sect of Penn and overhears their remarks when a toast is proposed in the interest of conciliation:—"May the sword of the parent never be stained with the blood of her children." One of the Friends ventures the opinion: "This is not a toast, but a prayer; come, let us join in it," a suggestion which is at once accepted.

The work of the Congress having closed for the session the Pennsylvanian Assembly approves what has been done. Great projects are occupying Philadelphia now in addition to its duties in the way of statesmanship. The Schuylkill river must have a bridge, the activity and the needs of the city and of the people outside having outgrown





RIDGWAY BRANCH OF PHILADELPHIA LIBRARY, Broad and Christian Streets.





the ferry. In spite of the action of the Congress in petitioning the King for a redress of grievances things are going forward in a way that would seem to show little faith in the considerateness of the royal personage. Organizations are being formed for the encouragement of domestic manufactures ; gunpowder being especially an article the production of which interests the Philadelphian public. A society is founded early in the year seventeen hundred and seventy-five to encourage the manufacture of woolen goods. Invention is beginning to show itself in the Pennsylvanian colony. James Hazel offers to exhibit to the Wool Manufacturing Society an apparatus that will enable a girl ten years of age to tend forty-eight spindles and card three hundred and sixty pairs of cards. Other inventors appear also with machines ; and John Hague and Christopher Tulley are fortunate enough to get fifteen pounds each as a gift from the Assembly for producing machines intended to facilitate the spinning of cotton. The Society finds plenty to do, and finally a factory is secured at Ninth and Market streets, where farmers are invited to bring their wool and flax. Trade in the colony is flourishing and scarcely a week passes in which some branch of manufacture is not established in Philadelphia.

From domestic trade and its condition the mind is diverted by the sound of hoofs travelling rapidly from an easterly direction. A horseman from Trenton gallops into town. It is five o'clock in the afternoon of the 24th of April, year seventeen hundred and seventy-five. The rider has startling news. General Gage marched out of Boston on the night of the 18th of April with his soldiers and crossing to Cambridge fired upon and killed a number of the militia at Lexington, besides destroying property at Concord.

Patriotic Philadelphia rises in the morning and takes to the street. The news of the killing of the militia in Massachusetts by British troops fires every heart and drives men fairly into a frenzy. The populace moves with one accord toward the State House. There can be no meeting there because the crowd is too large. The Committee on Correspondence, charged with the duty of keeping up communication with the colonies, takes the matter up. The Committee knows its business and the mob is satisfied. It passes a resolution brief but to the point recommending that all citizens "associate together to defend with arms their property, liberty and lives against all attempts to deprive them of it." The resolution serves its purpose and meets the approval of all. Deliberate assemblages are all right, but now there is something of more immediate importance calling for attention. Men must be drilled, they must be equipped with arms. The crisis

is coming and all may see it. The enrollment of men begins at once. The Committee on Correspondence calls upon everybody who has arms to let the fact be known. Two troops of light horse, two companies of riflemen and two companies of artillery with brass and iron field-pieces must be formed immediately.

Strange transformation wrought by time and circumstances ! If old William Penn, in spirit and consciousness, could look upon the scene in this hour, with its platoons of raw but eager fighters, the clanking of swords and the click of the musket-locks, what sensations would fill the mind of the peace-loving leader of the non-militant sect and founder of Philadelphia ! Well would it have been for him and for the interests of his progeny if he had exercised some of that strict vigilance which distinguished the Puritans in the matter of choosing their company, and not allowed his Pennsylvanian colony to acquire such a cosmopolitan character. But now it is useless to ponder and lament over what cannot be remedied. Ninety-three years have passed since Penn founded his colony and surely the three generations which have flourished on this particular part of the American soil have learned something in the intervening space of time regarding the rights of men, especially since the gates of the city have been wide-open and the stranger, whether agitator, philosopher or patriot, from whatever clime, has been made welcome. The seed has been sown by many hands, and King George himself has unwittingly furnished the stimulating heat necessary to hasten a bounteous crop of aggressive American patriots. Yet, true to their doctrines, the order-loving Quakers, with a few exceptions, look with disapproval on any move that savors of disloyalty to the King. Particularly are they displeased with these new committees and associations which are springing up so numerously ; and even the holding of this Continental Congress is a thing that should be frowned upon. Those erring members of the sect who have united with the violent elements of the colony are made subjects for discipline, and through the medium of their meetings there is sent forth "solemn testimony against resistance and violence." The meeting "for sufferings for New Jersey and Pennsylvania" issues an epistle addressed to those who have strayed from the peace-loving path which says in its mild way : "Some Friends have been carried away by the excitement of the day. They must be brought back to old-time allegiance to the King ; they must be admonished. These erring brethren must be reclaimed and shown the error of their ways, in affection and brotherly love. They have joined associations and given pledges and engaged in public affairs such as lead them to deviate from



PENNSYLVANIA BUILDING AT THE WORLD'S FAIR, Chicago, 1893.  
Tower modeled after that of Independence Hall.





our religious principles, which teach us not to contend for anything at all, not even liberty. It is a part of the Divine principles we profess to avoid anything tending to disaffection to the King and the legal authority of his government; we must not approach him but with loyal and respectful addresses."

And following this avowal of loyalty the testimony was moved "publicly to declare against every usurpation of power and authority in opposition to the laws and government and against all combinations, insurrections, conspiracies and illegal assemblies," including the Congress itself.

Strange words to read on the eve of a Declaration of Independence which, going forth, thrills the world. Yet, did not the Quakers come honestly by their principles of non-resistance? Their patience and meekness of spirit had been proved by the thumb-screws and at the whipping-posts of England and did they preserve their belief through all their tribulations and distress in the land of their origin only to surrender it now in a clime where their lot was so much happier and their condition so much improved? Many of the non-resisting sect who were averse to aiding the patriots publicly did so secretly; and one of them, Samuel Wetherill, spoke plain words against the "testimony" put out by the Friends' meeting, telling his brethren in brief terms that man was not infallible and he was not ready to affirm his belief that the patriots were wrong and the Friends right.

Non-resistance! What a small, almost infinitesimal, speck the image of the word makes on the lowering, angry horizon of this vigorous, growing, aggressive city of Philadelphia at this time, when the news of Lexington and Concord is fresh in the ears! Beneath the calm exterior of the representatives of the people, composing the Committee on Correspondence and other patriot bodies, there is the consciousness of a growing powerful force generated by the hopes, the expectations and the angry impatience of the masses, who will have no backward course. Their faces are set towards liberty and independence and they are ready, willing, eager to sacrifice their lives for the principles in which they believe, but there must be no temporizing, no betrayal of their cause. Woe to the man, or the committee of men, who may attempt to act treacherously! The second session of the Congress will begin on the 10th of May, year seventeen hundred and seventy-five, and the State House is already being got in trim for the notable event. This Congress is doing wonders for Philadelphia,—or is Philadelphia doing wonders for the Congress? Here is the principal city in America

founded as the seat of the peace-loving, non-resisting sect, and yet what an example of aggressiveness and organized, armed resistance it is setting for the cities and towns of the other colonies ! There is reason to believe that the Congress likes the atmosphere of the stirring, independent city, and that the whiffs of gunpowder which now and then touch its nostrils are not at all displeasing but rather have the effect of causing some of the Massachusetts and Virginian members to look at each other slyly and snap the lids of one eye together furtively, if any of the gentlemen composing such a distinguished body may be supposed to ever indulge in acts that border so closely on levity. Surely the Congress is feeling its way, slowly, cautiously ; doing nothing in haste or rashness, but keeping an eye on the temper of the people and avoiding every issue but the supreme one. Did not the Massachusetts Baptists come before it at this second session and demand a change in the statutes of that Puritan stronghold in order that they might enjoy more liberty and justice, and did not John Hancock, John Adams and other members of the State's delegation in Congress tell them sharply that it was not a Congressional matter but a matter belonging to the colony itself,—the first instance on record of the assertion of the doctrine of State rights in America.

With all the preparation for the Congress and the agitation of great questions and the burning excitement of the times in this feverish, violent transition period the industrial growth of Philadelphia continues with amazing rapidity. John Elliott and Company start a glassworks in Kensington ; William Calverly begins to make fine carpets in Loxley's Court ; Richard Wills builds and operates a spermaceti works at Sixth and Arch streets, and brewer Hare is turning out excellent American porter. What is more to the point, there springs into being a good many manufacturers of saltpetre, and powder and lead are treasured as they have never been before.

Amidst all the excitement of the approaching session of the Congress, and the drilling of newly-enrolled bands of militia, a work which had been going on ever since the receipt of the news from Lexington and Concord, the city was thrown into a delirium of joy over an unexpected, most auspicious occurrence—the arrival home of Benjamin Franklin from his long residence abroad as foreign agent of the Colonies. It was evening on the fifth day of May when the philosopher, statesman, and man of universal affairs reached the city which had acquired so much that was beneficial and progressive from the former service of this citizen of stupendous executive and business capacity and supreme mastery of details. Absent from his native shore



CATHEDRAL OF ST. PETER AND ST. PALL, EIGHTEENTH STREET AND LOGAN SQUARE.







for a period of eighteen years and latterly badgered, pestered and bedevilled by the English Parliament and its agents for his staunch position on the question of American affairs, and his protests against oppression and injustice, he had returned at the right time,—the man for the hour. Forthwith patriotic Philadelphia shines with illumination, the name of Franklin is heard on every hand, and the citizens go fairly wild in their transports of joy. The glad words “Franklin is here! Franklin is here!” are echoed in every street as the joyous news flies from house to house. The Provincial Assembly is in session and its first act on the morning following Franklin’s arrival is to elect him a delegate to the Congress which will meet in the ensuing week.

At once chaos assumes the semblance of order, excitement cools, and the influence of this wonderful man is felt on every side. Fresh from the source of all colonial troubles the great American knows the temper of the enemy, has foreseen its plans and sets himself to work to meet and cope with them. First he organizes the Committee of Safety, the members of which are appointed by the Assembly, thus starting with an official authoritative footing; and this body quickly supplants the cumbrous Committee on Correspondence which was appointed, not by any regular constituted body, but by citizens assembled in a town meeting. Franklin himself, as President of the Committee of Safety, convenes it every morning at six o’clock in order that its meetings may not interfere with the sessions of Congress, of which he is a member. The Committee of Safety virtually takes the place of State and city governments. It provides for arming and equipping the militia, gets together a collection of craft more or less queer and experimental, and forms a local navy, regularly officered and manned; obstructs the Delaware and erects a fortification or two, and attends to nearly all the business relating to the public business of the city.

The Congress assembling on the tenth of May finds itself fairly bewildered in the presence of the excitement and activity in Philadelphia. John Hancock, the new President, is the recipient of an unexpected honor; nearly two thousand members of the militia, fully armed and equipped, turning out to receive him, the command including six guns, two twelve-pounders, and four brass six-pounders, and a troop of light horse. If any doubt on the question of the seriousness of the people of Philadelphia, in their determination to resist the authority of the King, has existed in the minds of the Congress, it is now dispelled. The Congress itself is non-committal for the present. It views the militia going through its manœuvres a month later and is

considerably impressed. Yet it is a most dignified conservative body representing the brains of all the colonies; it knows when to speak and when to keep its counsel. Before it has been in session two months Massachusetts has cut away her allegiance to the King and adopted a constitution of her own making. New Hampshire follows her example a few days later. Then the provinces in the South fall into the procession of independent colonies, South Carolina being the third to cut adrift from the governmental craft of King George.

The Congress in the meanwhile has kept quiet, doing nothing overt or rash, but watching the colonies drop from the parent stem as the skilled physician might watch his patients leap into strength after he has administered a potent stimulant. The winter passes and Massachusetts, New Hampshire and South Carolina stand as the three independent colonies out of the thirteen. Congress on the fifteenth day of May, seventeen hundred and seventy-six, feels that the time has come to give an impetus to the movement for independence. Accordingly on this day it adopts a resolution recommending that all the colonies follow the example of the three which have severed their relations with King George. North Carolina, Rhode Island and Virginia instruct their delegates in Congress to concur with delegates from other colonies in declaring independence and in forming foreign alliance. The Congress meantime has thrown open the ports of the country to all nations, and has opened correspondence with foreign powers. Silas Deane has been sent to France, with which nation an alliance may soon be expected.

Colonial independence must be hastened. This, at least, is the view of Virginia, which, in convention at Williamsburg on the fourteenth day of May unanimously adopts resolutions, drawn by Edmund Pendleton and advocated by Patrick Henry, to the effect that "the delegates appointed to represent the colony in the general Congress be instructed to propose to that respectable body to declare the united colonies free and independent States, absolved from all allegiance to or dependent upon the Crown or Parliament of Great Britain.

The resolutions as adopted are carried to Philadelphia to the Congress by their mover, and thus the "respectable body" has something for its consideration of a nature not distasteful. On the seventh day of June Virginia again distinguishes itself when Richard Henry Lee rises in Congress and offers a resolution that "these united colonies are and of right ought to be, free and independent States; that they are absolved from all allegiance to the British Crown, and that all political connection between them and Great Britain is and ought to be totally dissolved."



CHESTNUT STREET, from corner of Fifth, looking east,  
with INDEPENDENCE HALL and Besset Building on the right.





Bold words coming from one of the representatives of the oldest of American colonies! Where now is that loyal sentiment which, crystalizing in the days of the great Elizabeth and fraught with respect and affection, before there was any city of Philadelphia or any Pennsylvania, or any William Penn for that matter, bestowed upon the beautiful region with its varying topography of tidal plains and uplands and blue-crowned hills and misty mountain peaks, the euphonious name, Virginia! Where is the idea of reverence and blind allegiance which found spontaneous expression when the London Company's colonists, with their utensils and household effects, their carpenters and artisans, sailed up the winding river away from the treacherous location of Albemarle and reaching a green, shaded spot on the banks of the stream far from its mouth, named the river after their sovereign and likewise honored him in the designation of their town, Jamestown!

Yet, many things have happened since that memorable day; one hundred and sixty-nine years have come and gone and the Virginian colony, become great through hardships and much tribulation, looks back already with that reverence evoked by age on the name and memories of Jamestown. Perhaps those memories stir the emotions of this descendant of the early settlers as he pens the memorable words, "These united colonies are and of right ought to be free and independent states;" and as he rises in the Congress—yet in its infancy and feeling its way at every step—in Philadelphia's State House, and reads the inspiring words small wonder if all other business be forgotten and the Congress, through its best and ablest representatives, debates the matter all the following day and then refers it to the Committee of the Whole, Benjamin Harrison, of Virginia, Chairman.

The Committee debates it all the following day, Saturday, and reports progress and asks leave to sit again on Monday. Momentous question! Can any one foresee the outcome? On the eventful Monday the debate is renewed and continues for hours when Edward Rutledge, patriot of South Carolina, creates consternation in the breasts of some of the warmest advocates of the resolution by moving its postponement for three weeks! What is the meaning of this attempt to delay? Nothing insidious or detrimental to the cause of liberty, gentlemen of the Congress. Some of the colonies are not yet ready to come into the union of independent States, but their best men are hard at work at home and they soon will stand abreast of Virginia and Massachusetts and New Hampshire. Give them a little time, for the outcome is sure. Accordingly the resolution goes over until July 1st, but not without a

provision which anticipates its adoption and pleases Richard Henry Lee exceedingly—a resolution setting forth that “in the meanwhile that no time be lost in case the Congress agree thereto, that a Committee be appointed to prepare a declaration to the effect of the first said resolution.”

A wise and fit provision and one which will make the resolution all the more impressive and weighty when adopted. The Congress next day selects the Committee, Thomas Jefferson, the youngest of the Virginian delegation, who wields a ready pen and who is looked upon as one of the very ablest of the States’ representatives; John Adams of Massachusetts, Benjamin Franklin of Pennsylvania, Roger Sherman of Connecticut and Robert R. Livingston of New York. Discriminating Congress! In the make-up of this small but important Committee the four oldest colonies, Virginia, Massachusetts, New York and Pennsylvania are represented—an eminently proper selection. Virginia has its place of honor throughout all the proceedings attending the birth of the great Declaration. Thomas Jefferson is made Chairman of the Committee and is delegated by his colleagues to write the document. He has three weeks in which to perform the work. The young Virginian goes to his room in the residence of Jacob Graff, Jr., bricklayer,—who, like many other of the mechanics and artisans of Philadelphia, is the owner of the house in which he dwells, southwest corner of Seventh and Market streets,—and locking himself in his room proceeds with the great work with which he is charged.

Patriotic America is now in a fever heat of expectation, anticipation and wild demonstrativeness. The Congress has placed its hand on the lever: it has but to give one determined push and a new nation will be called into being on this western continent. Will the Congress fail?—will it refuse to move the lever and thus disappoint the hopes of the people? Three weeks postponement! To the impatient patriot it seems like an age. There are so many risks involved—so many little slips in the pathway of this cherished boon of liberty and independence. It is too good to succeed. Yet, has not the Congress taken a significant step in the right direction? Why appoint a committee to prepare a Declaration to accompany the resolution if it does not intend to adopt the resolution itself? This is well, but supposing the Congress is mistaken on the question of its strength in favor of the resolution! It may be defeated after all and then all the hopes and expectations in connection with liberty and independence are as withered grass on the drouth-stricken field.

Thus do the hopes and fears of the patriots alternate. In the





WALNUT STREET, looking west from Third Street.





meanwhile the ever-watchful Committee of Safety, with the indefatigable Franklin at its head, continues its duties which are anything but light ; continues to meet at six o'clock in the morning and receive reports and apportion its work among the various sub-committees. Of these the Committee on Inspection is one of the most important. It has much business at the wharves and warehouses ; keeps its eyes wide open to note whether any of the merchants are receiving contraband goods, in violation of the non-importation agreement. Now and then it ferrets out a consignment of wines, or a package of the hated tea, either smuggled in from a vessel direct or stealthily conveyed from that thrifty trading centre, New York ; or it may be that molasses, coffee, chocolate, sugar, salt and pepper have been covertly landed and lodged in the cellar of one or more of the enterprising Philadelphian merchants. If so, and the Committee on Inspection discovers the illicit business, woe to the violator of the popular law, or rather, agreement, which, supported by the overwhelming sentiment of the people who sustain the Committee of Safety, has all the binding force of law duly enacted. Once detected the merchant shall not only lose his goods, which must be confiscated and sold at auction, but he loses his character as well, and will be published broadcast as an enemy to the country, and one who is to be avoided by every patriot.

The Committee of Safety finds plenty to do likewise in another direction. Mr. So-and-so, whose Tory sympathies are well known, has been speaking slightly of the Congress. The Committee at once apprehends him, demands a retraction, and shows so much sternness about it that the offender finds it expedient to humbly take back the objectionable words and "to beg the pardon of Congress." One unpatriotic citizen, a butcher, finds it best to publicly avow that his disrespectful words about Congress were prompted by "the most contracted notions of the British constitution and the rights of human nature." He asks pardon of Congress and will not reflect upon it again. Another unsympathizing and talkative person confesses he was much to blame for having spoken slightly of the cause of liberty and independence, and he promises to do better henceforth. Still another who has vilified Congress is held up as a spectacle before the populace and compelled to beg pardon of the respectable and important body in session at the State House, and to promise to not again be guilty of the same offence.

These multifarious duties of the Committee of Safety assuredly keep it busy and inspire a wholesome dread of its power in the minds

of the non-sympathizers. The Committee likewise keeps actively at work enrolling new recruits in the militia, forming a local navy, fixing the price of the necessities of life in order that monopolists may not take advantage of the time and the situation and exact exorbitant rates from the people for supplies. With such an alert, vigilant and capable body looking after affairs in the city and so zealously protecting its good name the Congress can occupy itself with matters of more weighty, more general and more far-reaching effect and importance.

Through all this seething, foaming and raging of the vast aggregate of excited human passion the Congress moves placidly to the eventful date, the first day of July. A vast crowd of citizens of all classes is assembled about the State House in the morning, as the members slowly wend their way to the place of meeting. There is something electrical, magnetic, contagious in the expectation and excitement of the great throng. The members see it and feel it. The Congress having come to order the resolution of Richard Henry Lee "respecting independence" is reported by Benjamin Harrison, Chairman of the Committee of the Whole. South Carolina asks that it be laid over until the following day, much to the disappointment and chagrin of the patriot multitude outside. The Carolinian State is all right, nevertheless; only wishes to have the thing more secure by giving her own people down on the coast a chance to be heard "by word of mouth," as it were, in favor of independence before the notable words are spoken and accepted as its fiat by Congress.

This second of July witnesses no abatement of the throng which hems in State House and Congress. The resolution is taken up and adopted. The business is not yet complete, however. There is the Declaration which must go forth to the world with it, or as nearly after it as circumstances will permit, and the young Virginian with the ready pen and the quick comprehension of political science, Thomas Jefferson, is ready to report it from the Committee of which he is Chairman. For three days the notable paper is discussed in Committee of the Whole, July 2d, 3d and 4th. John Dickinson speaks against it. The Declaration will not add a single soldier to the patriot cause. John Adams rises, and with all eyes fixed upon the massive forehead and the thoughtful countenance, confesses that as he speaks he "feels himself oppressed by the weight of the subject." The debate is between Adams and Dickinson, and the result is foreshadowed when the colleague of the latter, James Wilson, rises and says he will vote for the Declaration of Independence.



INTERIOR OF JOHN MOFFETT SCHOOL. A typical Philadelphia school-room, with steel ceiling.

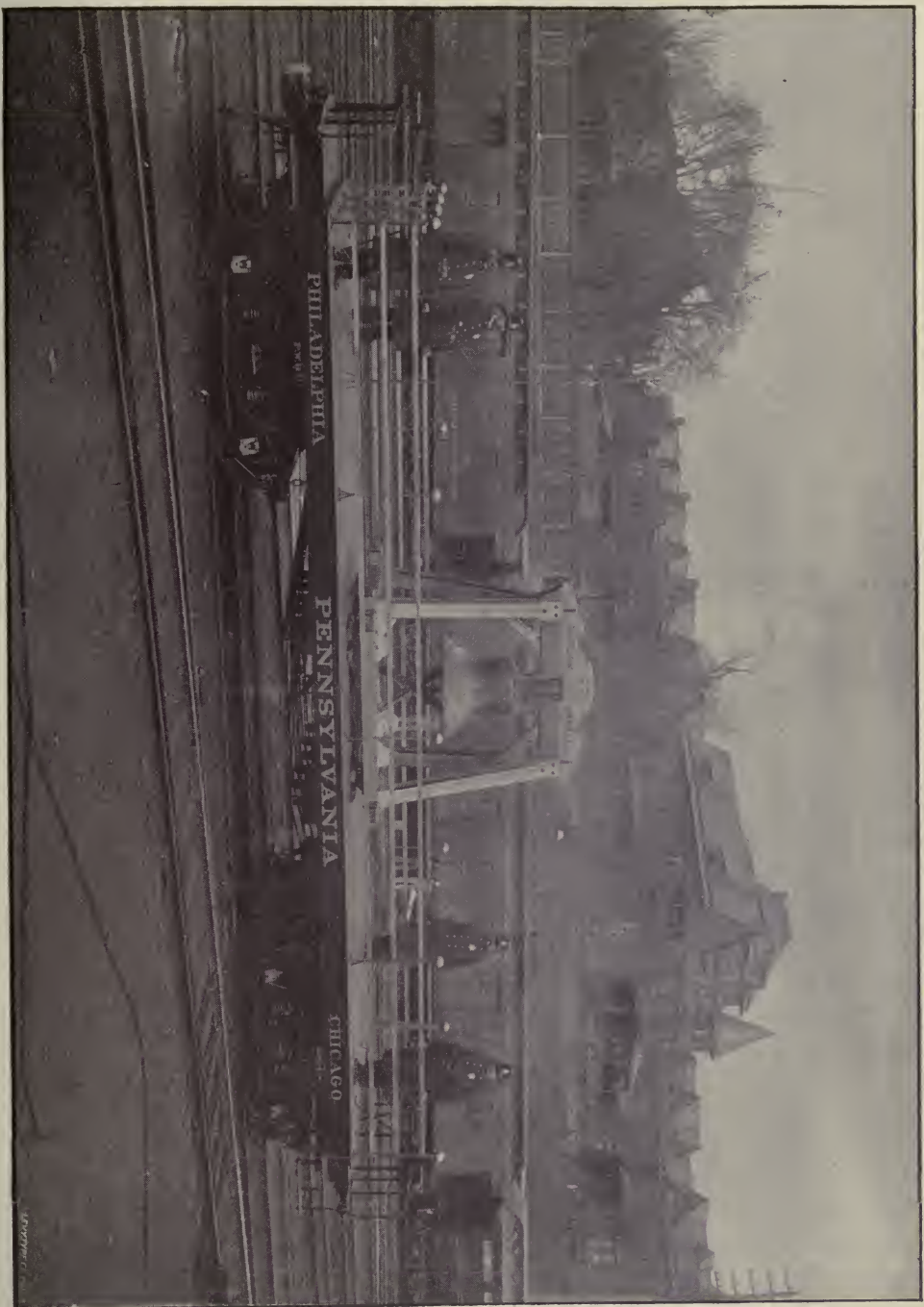




The remainder of the story is quickly told. The Declaration comes to a vote, is adopted and forthwith the old janitor proceeds to the belfry tower, with tremulous, eager hands seizes the supple rope which seems in this supreme moment to be endowed with bounding life and at once peal forth the tones of the State House bell in obedience to the word to "proclaim liberty throughout all the land," while, mingled with the air-laden screams of the joyous metal, rise the shouts and cheers of the patriot thousands, struggling there in one black, dense mass with hats and handkerchiefs poised in the air and with the genius of freedom encircling their heads, making their wild gesticulations and joyous play of countenance a sight at once beautiful and sublime in the inspiring hour, never to be forgotten nor uncommemorated so long as the American name is known in human annals and the word Liberty has meaning in this earthly destiny among the races of men.







CAR IN PENNSYLVANIA RAILROAD COMPANY'S YARD, CONTAINING LIBERTY BELL, April 24, 1893, prior to its removal to Chicago.





## CHAPTER IX.

LOWERING OF WAR CLOUDS ALL OVER THE COLONIES—THE BRITISH UNDER HOWE OCCUPY PHILADELPHIA—DEPARTURE OF THE CONGRESS FOR LANCASTER—WASHINGTON AND VALLEY FORGE—PHILADELPHIA'S SKY AGAIN BRIGHTENS—ITS GREAT INDUSTRIAL GROWTH FORESHADOWED.

**R**ADICAL and revolutionary act, Philadelphia! Of all bold things just now occurring on old Earth's crust, or having occurred and left some recollection thereof in the minds of men this Declaration is about the boldest, and will be attended by the most momentous and far-reaching effects. Among American cities in this eventful year of seventeen hundred and seventy-six this city of Penn stands pre-eminent, having out-Americaned them all and brought on a pretty crisis, thanks to her exceptional foresight two years ago when she suggested this idea of a Congress of the Colonies and having seen it carried out thereafter took the Congress under her wings and sternly suffered no one to speak disrespectfully of the distinguished body, but compelled all within the range of her influence to conform with its decrees and recommendations.

Here, then, is the Congress, full-grown, and these restless, dissatisfied and revolutionary Philadelphians may contemplate its latest work, the logical fruit of *their* work. They wanted independence and now they have it, by formal, heroic, official proclamation of that able assemblage which they gathered together from all the colonies, beneath their own roof-tree, and which seems to like the location so well it has got into the habit of occupying their State House regularly every year. Not only do they have independence but they have a terrific war on their hands and on those of their fellow-colonists, their antagonist being a big fighting nation which has won a proud record in many contests both on land and sea and which displays a formidable band about its girth labelled "Conqueror." The Congress has been egged on to do this astounding thing and now Philadelphia, which is in reality at the bottom of it all, must stand by it and see that it is protected. She is the staunch pillar against which the Congress must lean, and if she topples all goes over, in which event it would be better if the Congress had never existed.

The Congress finds, however, it is resting on a substantial support. Philadelphia, having shouted itself hoarse over the Declaration and

made its joy heard to the farthest corners of the earth, even King George's ears not being spared, comes back to urgent business with a promptness and coolness that must astonish the Congress itself. Only four days after the signing and promulgating of the Declaration Philadelphia and Pennsylvania are holding an election in the State House for the purpose of choosing delegates to a convention to formulate a State Constitution.

A State Constitution! Must the restless patriots of the province of Penn display such unseemly haste in donning the garb of Statehood—independent Statehood—that the objectionable costume shall clothe their defiant figures before the old colonial garments are decently put out of sight? Well might the King and the Parliament feel an additional thrill of anger at the spectacle of this impetuous rush to clear away all the vestiges of royal authority. Bad as it is, however, the worst has not yet developed; for, when the convention meets a few days later and organizes by electing that formidable American, Benjamin Franklin, President, it forthwith assumes executive and legislative power in Pennsylvania, supplanting both Governor and Provincial Assembly, for Franklin is nothing if not radical and courageous. He has taken into his own hands it appears, all law and authority, swung Pennsylvania into accord with the Congress and, like a stout son of Vulcan, is mauling and welding the two bodies into unity and harmony regardless of their previous condition severally and of the foreign ingredients which made up their composition. This muscular business of *hammering out* a State does not please the Tories nor yet the Moderates nor the Quakers, who protest loudly, but Franklin, the chief artisan in the construction of the new governmental fabric, does not mind them, but goes on with his work and the Congress applauds him.

It is one of the noticeable things in this trying time that the patriots are philosophic and unterrified. If they have to fight King George's armies anyhow for their acts they might as well stand in the ranks of battle as huge violators of royal authority as face the warlike array in the character of small recalcitrants, especially since the effect will be the same and musket-balls will not be influenced one way or other by the question of the degree of the offences committed.

Therefore, Franklin and his co-workers take all the desperate chances the situation offers and frame a Constitution which is enforced despite the fact that the people reject it. The war clouds are lowering rapidly; George Washington vacates his seat in Congress as member from Virginia to accept the post of Commander-in-Chief of the American Army. Through the stormy Revolutionary period the





ASYLUM FOR THE BLIND, Twentieth and Race Streets.





services of the unrivalled Franklin in the cause of his State and of his country shine resplendent, whether on his native soil or whether representing the interests of the nation at the Court of the French Republic.

From the joyous days immediately following the date of the Declaration of Independence the observer of the happenings and events in this notable year of seventeen hundred and seventy-six will gradually find his thoughts moving in a more sober, if not more sombre, channel as the shadow of approaching ills becomes more clearly marked and defined. Britain's fighters have their eyes on the rebellious city, the scene of the Revolutionary Congress and of all revolutionary edicts, including the most noted one, penned by Jefferson. As the year passes and the new one approaches there are many evidences of a desire on the part of the British commander to invade and occupy the most famous of American towns, and Washington himself anticipates the event. Why should Britain's General not wish to move against Philadelphia? It has been the seat of all the trouble which has harassed the King and the Parliament, the most independent, most aggressive and, the King and his ministers may well say, the most disloyal.

The black day of reckoning comes only too sure; wherewith on the sixth day of September, year seventeen hundred and seventy-seven, General Howe, with his cavaliers and troopers rides into the town at the head of a big army, after having had a vigorous bout with Washington and his fighters on the banks of the Brandywine. Patriotic Philadelphia receives the enemy in silence and with much secret heart-burning; unpatriotic Philadelphia, the Tories, turn out with music and illumination and many transports of joy. The Congress has adjourned to Lancaster; the Liberty Bell, sacred emblem of independence, and the chimes of Christ Church, which have also been guilty of "proclaiming liberty"—on that day when the Declaration was signed,—have likewise departed the town on a brief vacation trip, to be spent under the turf of a certain picturesque churchyard in Allentown, their destination, however, being unknown to General Howe. Previous to and attending the departure of noted men, Congressmen and others, gloom reigns unchecked and the hope of the patriot is at a low ebb. Even the great John Adams is moved to lament for lack of "one great soul who could extricate the best cause from that ruin which seems to await it;" and despairful Parson Muhlenberg cries, "Now Pennsylvania bend thy neck and prepare to meet thy God!"

Not yet, friend Muhlenberg ! Britain's war-dog, indolent, well-fed, pampered, luxurious in his habits, fond of gaming, a devotee of pleasure in fact, spends the Autumn, Winter and Spring comfortably enough in the rebellious city, toasted and cajoled by the Tory residents who are in a high state of joy. Washington with his army in the meantime is at Valley Forge and vicinity ; not so well quartered and provided for as his British antagonist, since the bleeding, unshod feet and ragged garb of his soldiers are an actual sight there and not a picture of fancy. The winter wears away, the luxurious Howe doing nothing brilliant ; occupying his time gaming and banqueting and making one or two feints at attacking the patriot General, none of which amounts to anything—save perhaps the battle of Germantown—until the arrival of May, when an order comes relieving him of the command and placing Sir Henry Clinton in charge. Before another month has passed Britain has marched out of Philadelphia across the Jersey sands, closely pursued by the patriot General and his troops.

It was night of the eighteenth day of June, year seventeen hundred and seventy-eight, when the last of the "King's hated troops" made their way across the Delaware, and, landing at barren Gloucester Point on the New Jersey shore, looked back on the long dark front of the patriot city, silent, ominous, portentous in the waning vision and shrouded in the mystery of an unrevealed destiny, world-filling in its historic greatness and civic grandeur. A proud night and a glad one for the great American town, so still there in this eventful hour under the clear June starlight, reflected in the myriad undulations on the broad, restless, ever-heaving Delaware stream ! Now friends of Britain, including the whole family of Torydom in Philadelphia, whose countenances are so forlorn on this night when patriots devoutly rejoice, well may you borrow and paraphrase that exclamation wrung from much agony of soul of good Parson Muhlenberg nine months ago, for nothing will better fit your own case ; you, who have been, during these long months of "British protection," at once informer and castigator, inquisitor and jailor, under whose revengeful and cruel hands so many of your patriot fellow-citizens have suffered.

With Britain's rear-guard climbing the banks on the opposite shore,—even before they have all departed from Philadelphian soil,—the patriot troops press into the town. Onward, impetuous and eager the hurrying throngs in uniform of the "Continentials," and—alas ! many almost in rags, unshod and lean, but with patriot hearts beating beneath the worn faded garb, swarm on the trail of the retreating foe so numerous they seem to rise from the earth. As the last of





RESIDENCE OF MR. A. J. DREXEL, Thirty-ninth and Walnut Streets, West Philadelphia.





Britain's host tumbles into its boats the patriot cavalry, under the valiant Captain Allen McLane, presses on its rear so closely and harasses it so persistently that confusion ensues, and several of the King's officers and men fall into the hands of the patriot troops much to the delight of loyal Philadelphia and the gallant Captain McLane. Nor does the pursuit fail here. Washington and his army are soon on Jersey soil in hot chase after the proud hosts of Sir Henry Clinton, undismayed and more determined than ever to press this war, forced upon the American colonies, to a conclusion on the basis of the rights set forth in the great Declaration.

The enemy is gone and Philadelphia again breathes free. How quickly the town regains its wonted air of independence and self-reliance! As if conscious that the eyes of the world are upon her as the champion of right and justice, her spirit, unbroken and undaunted, rises to the supreme height demanded by the occasion, and thenceforth as formerly, the patriot cause finds no lagging, no lack of vigorous encouragement, no absence of substantial aid on the part of the freedom-loving Pennsylvanian city. In the space of one week from the time of the departure of the British, the Congress is again meeting in the State House, much to the depression and loneliness of Lancaster, which had seemed quite another place during the stir and bustle attending the assembling there of such a distinguished body of men. The Assembly alone remains at the rural town with its background of blue-crowned hills and its far-reaching prospect of undulating plains, and green valleys, languorous and Eden-like amidst the charm of sparkling streams, hastening in their onward flow to the stately Susquehanna, or leaping southeastward to mingle their waters with that storied creek which flows commemorative of the early settlers from Sweden and Norway, in the peaceful days before the advent of Penn and his Pennsylvania,—the Christiana.

Other things and establishments besides the Congress come back to Philadelphia now that the sky has cleared and the city is itself again. Dunlap and his Pennsylvanian *Packet* return and at once business is resumed at the old place, and American doctrine is poured forth tri-weekly by the indefatigable editor and publisher who is also the recipient and custodian of all things advertised as "lost and found," and a sort of bureau of general information and employment office combined. Quite different is the situation of Henry Miller, the German printer, whose office, the finest in America, was seized and looted, the spoils going to James Robertson, the Tory printer of the Pennsylvania *Gazette*, who carried off the property in the King's

wagons, alleging that General Howe had given it to him as compensation for the loss of his own printing property at Albany, which had been taken by the patriots; all of which make it evident that the fraternal feeling and "honor among the craft" had not reached that complete state of development which has later resulted in a sense of recognition of the rights of property.

Torydom in Philadelphia is now travelling a thorny road; the Congress and the Supreme Executive Council having taken up its case with a determination to make some wholesome examples that the patriotic may find encouragement and the unpatriotic be taught a lesson not soon to be forgotten. Enemies within as well as without the American household must be looked after. Accordingly, in this summer of seventeen hundred and seventy-eight, a military court-martial and Chief Justice Thomas McKean in the Court of Oyer and Terminer are both busy with cases, the former dealing with British spies and deserters from the American army while the latter is engaged with numerous cases involving the charge of high treason. Some hundreds, including persons of position as well as thrifty artisans and tradesmen, have been attainted by the Congress as traitors, and proclamations are issued commanding them to come forward and stand trial. A number of the accused do not appear and cannot be found for the excellent reason that they have fled for England on the British fleet, having been taken as refugees, leaving land and property behind to be confiscated and applied to the use of the State. Those who are within reach are brought to trial; some acquitted, others found guilty and imprisoned, banished or heavily fined, while several are hanged—the execution of Abraham Carlisle, a carpenter, who had kept one of the city gates for the British, and John Roberts, a miller, who had enlisted in the army of the enemy, being the most notable of the several cases of capital punishment inflicted by the patriots and productive of the greatest amount of dismay among the unpatriotic survivors, who feared it was only the beginning of a day of reckoning which might not soon have an ending. The court-martial, likewise, is doing its work in a business-like way, not calculated to revive the spirits or bring cheerfulness to the faces of Tories or the unpatriotic among the Quakers. George Spangler, convicted on the charge of being a British spy, is hanged on the Philadelphia commons. Lieutenant Lyons and Lieutenant Ford, formerly in the service of the Committee of Safety's improvised American Navy on the Delaware, but charged with deserting to the British during the attack on Fort Mifflin, and found guilty, are both shot on board one of the





FRIENDS' MEETING HOUSE AND SCHOOL, Twelfth Street below Market Street.





guard-boats in the river off Gloucester. Patrick McMullen, a deserter, having been convicted by the court-martial, meets a like fate.

In the meanwhile, the Congress having attained a number of citizens as traitors and ordered them into exile on the eve of the entrance of the British into the city, now that the enemy has departed and it finds itself back in its old quarters in the State House, grows more lenient and issues a proclamation allowing the exiles to return. Among those who are thus permitted to come back to the city of independence are John Penn and Benjamin Chew—late Chief Justice of the province—who have been detained by Congressional order at Hunterdon, New Jersey. Likewise there appear a number of Tories and Quakers who had been banished to Staunton, and some of whom have aged considerably during their enforced sojourn among the Virginian mountains.

Patriotic Philadelphia is now established more firmly than ever on her bed-rock principle of liberty and independence. She has shown her capacity for suffering in the patriot cause and the obstinate Briton, even as he shook the dust of her streets from his shoes and betook himself eastward across the Jersey low lands, is forced to confess himself vanquished. There is no persuading such a stiff-necked people, and the King might as well give them up as a band of unruly traitors. Philadelphia, again the seat of government, shines forth to the world as the unyielding American city, and patriots and lovers of liberty everywhere conjure with her magical name. With the storm-centre of war removed from her locality her commerce, her industries and her richness of inventive faculty, bound once more into active, vigorous life. Manufacture in many and various branches is stimulated and developed ; genius and thrift assert themselves and the Quaker city, in the rapid expansion of business interests, the increase in the number of factories and mills, attracts attention as the centre of productive industry in America. Within her boundaries in these closing years of the eighteenth century, even while war is raging throughout the colonies, she manufactures enough cotton goods, paper, glass, leather, flour and other articles usually included in the category of necessities of life to supply the entire population of America ; and yet her "age of invention" has scarcely yet had its unobtrusive beginning.





MEMORIAL HALL, Fairmount Park.





## CHAPTER X.

THE ERA OF WAR SUCCEEDED BY THE ERA OF INDUSTRIAL GROWTH AND INVENTION  
IN PHILADELPHIA—THE OLD AND THE MODERN CITY PRESENTED IN CONTRAST—  
ELECTRICITY AND STEAM—EARLY EXPERIMENTS OF OLIVER EVANS WITH THE  
PREDECESSOR OF THE LOCOMOTIVE—THE AGE OF STEAM.

I N all this talk about Philadelphia in the throes of revolution and of an era formative, as well as a period of transition and experiment, the mind should keep in view the undoubted fact that the mortal of the closing years of the eighteenth century, the time of soul-harrowing trials and ordeals, who should by any supernatural agency be transported back to the earth and landed in his old abiding-place in the city of Penn in this four hundredth Columbian year—and a half-year over—would, unless having received previous warning, take fright and find himself in “a state of nerves” which only the most abundant reassurance and proof of good faith on the part of his host or guide, could overcome. If, for example, he should appear about the noonday hour in the centre of Philadelphia with its far-reaching boundaries of more than one hundred and twenty-nine square miles and its streets and thoroughfares teeming with the life and activity of a population exceeding twelve hundred thousand souls, and find as the initiatory performance greeting his advent, the simultaneous outburst of all the shrill and resonant screamers which attest the power and utility of steam, with their ten thousand variations, it is hardly a question admitting of argument that he would at least be startled and probably experience a desire to return whence he came. How like and how unlike the old Philadelphia ! The people from the beginning were a charitable set ; could hear of no calamity befalling their fellow-men in other parts of the world without being moved to hold meetings, appoint committees, raise money and supplies and forward the proceeds of the people’s bounty to the victims of distress. Thus, when Portsmouth, in the State of New Hampshire, on a cold January night, year eighteen hundred and three, was laid in ashes by fire, the city of Penn no sooner heard the news than her citizens assembled in public meeting, subscriptions were started and a fund of almost ten thousand dollars in cash, besides food and clothing, were dispatched to the unhappy people within forty-eight hours. Likewise did she respond with equal promptness and generosity one year later when the same

destructive element laid waste a portion of Norfolk, Virginia, a great throng of people assembling in the State House—how the masses of the City of Independence do instinctively flock to that building in times of calamity or of great public exigencies calling for popular action since those early days of the Revolution!—where some thousands of dollars were subscribed and forwarded to the sufferers in the Virginian town.

In benevolence and charity and zeal for learning, the character of the people of the city of Penn, the city of the third and greatest of the English colonies, is the same in this day as in the times of old, conditions affecting the industrial and commercial relations of men and nations alone having changed. The Philadelphia of yore was a quiet city. No scream from the throttle of the railway racer disturbed the peace of the citizen living so comfortably on Second street, or Front street "over against the river," for there were no railroads and steam was known only in connection with the brewing of the afterward interdicted tea or coffee and with the simple household uses of man. No columns of smoke rose huge and black against the clear light of the sky, for the method of using anthracite coal as fuel for mills and factories was unknown. The ears of the peace-loving Quakers were not disturbed by the shrieking of whistles as they announced the arrival of the morning or of the noonday or the evening hour. The craft that floated on the broad Delaware, silent witness of the growth of Philadelphia from its beginning, were devoid of the power to shriek the warning note when keel approached keel and threatened disaster created consternation on deck.

Changed conditions! Vast stride of human knowledge! During all these old days, with Philadelphia looking outward,—seaward,—with her mind on external affairs as the source of profit and prosperity, there lay close within her reach, in her own Pennsylvania, what was more than all the wealth of the Indias. All these days the coal and iron lay in the hills awaiting the hour when industry should find them and release them from the confinement of Earth's laboratory, to enable them to contribute their stupendous part to the enrichment and advancement of the interests of mankind. All these days the forests were burned, the furnaces yawned, invention flourished and mankind was considered vastly wise. Even if the coal had been unearthed and its usefulness demonstrated it would have profited the manufacturer and the mill operator little unless they could find a means of transporting it to their place of need. It was not until the railroad took its place as the potential agent of human and industrial development that



THE SCUTTYKILL, North from Strawberry Mansion.





the earth began to yield its treasure and invention to claim it, dragging it forth to the light of day and carrying it across mountains and great rivers, over hills and valleys, a ceaseless, unending stream of black mineral, ever greeting the eye in the rounding prospect, ever tending onward in the wake of the puffing, steaming, smoke-begrimed steed of iron, toward the centres of population, of industry and of commerce.

What share this city of American independence has had in the great awakening written and printed records show. Not alone in patriotism but in science, in invention and in the promotion of the polite and useful arts has she earned high distinction and contributed to the advancement of civilization. Did not the versatile Franklin, founder of the American Philosophical Society away back in the year seventeen hundred and twenty-seven, demonstrate the fact that electricity may be attracted in the realm of space and conducted to earth by means of an instrument no more complicated than a thread of wire?

And what has not been accomplished since by that same electricity and its accompanying "thread of wire!" Yet not alone was the active brain of Franklin delving into the mysteries of nature, of chemistry and of the science of mechanics. With such a busy, thrifty, industrious, complex population of a city where it was wont to be the boast, even before the days of the Declaration of Independence, that "half the property owners in Philadelphia wear leather aprons"—thus preparing the way for the later equivalent expression—"city of homes." Can it be supposed that new and useful things shall not be discovered and applied; that the city of Penn shall give no account of herself to the world?

Especially since there is a queer person with a queer theory even now causing some stir in the city;—a respectable but somewhat visionary man named Oliver Evans. There is nothing the matter with him; he means well, but he has a hobby, being possessed of an idea that he can improve, even revolutionize, the method of transportation of persons and property much to the amusement of the turnpike companies and the operators of lines of stages. This odd man who professes to believe that stupendous things may be done through the agency of the vapory element produced by boiling water, is before the public a good deal in these early years of the century; his friends politely listen to him with affected interest as he dilates upon the potency of steam and its power to serve man, and they try at least to not discourage him. The newspapers tolerate his theory and describe

some of his latest contrivances in the same spirit in which they would exploit a coming balloon ascension.

Meanwhile the persistence in which inventor Evans presses his idea on the public is beginning to make people talk a good deal; if there is anything of merit in his theory, which is doubtful, it will interfere somewhat with the traffic of the stage lines. Yet the men of the stage coaches laugh and nudge each other as the inventor with his steam-hobby comes in sight; this steam theory may be all right in its proper place, which seems to be in its application to boats where the genius of Fulton and Fitch has demonstrated its practicability, but what is this talk of the hobby-ridden Evans about a land carriage to be drawn by steam? He actually makes a proposition in this year eighteen hundred and four to the leading turnpike company—Philadelphia and Columbia—to build an engine and a carriage for freight under certain conditions set forth, the most salient of which appears to be a requirement that twenty-five hundred dollars shall be advanced, fifteen hundred to be applied to the building of the aforesaid engine, five hundred to the production of the carriage, while the remaining five hundred shall be held in reserve for “unforeseen expenses.” In return for the capital advanced the inventor will agree that the carriage aforementioned shall be capable of carrying one hundred barrels of flour at a speed of two miles an hour, thus performing in two days the journey, with the stated amount of freight, from Philadelphia to Columbia, a work which requires, under existing conditions, three days, twenty-five horses, five wagons, and an expenditure of three thousand three hundred and four dollars, actual rates.

The Turnpike Company declines to advance the money, doubtless being conscious of the fact that it is doing well enough with its wagons and its horses and its five days' time. But thereafter this man Evans is a person to be avoided. He is in search of capital for his visionary scheme and his friends and acquaintances, when they see him approaching, are overtaken by the sudden recollection of a matter of business across the street or around the corner which renders them unable to meet the man with the steam-hobby and exchange the greetings of the day. Has he not been advocating his peculiar idea for years, literally since the year seventeen hundred and seventy-three, at least in its application to the use of boats, and since seventeen and seventy-eight in the matter of its applicability to carriages on land! If the thing possessed any merit should it not have been demonstrated long before this year of grace eighteen hundred and four! Twenty-six years with a hobby and not yet able to show its practicability!





WEST RITTENHOUSE SQUARE (Nineteenth Street below Walnut), looking south.





Yet, not so certain! The indomitable inventor, in this year of propositions to turnpike companies and pointed rejections, evidently knows his ground. So far from being dismayed by the Philadelphia and Columbia monopoly, he publicly offers to wager the sum of three thousand dollars that he can make a carriage travel by steam faster than any horse! Philadelphia and its turnpike companies are amazed at the confidence and boldness of the inventor, who begins to assume an aspect in their eyes somewhat different from the man of their original idea. However, nobody, not even the stage coach company, which might be supposed to be the body most interested in showing to the public the folly of the queer idea, comes forth to meet the challenge, whereat the irrepressible champion of the new means of transportation is entitled to triumphantly refer all doubting investigators to his latest unanswered argument.

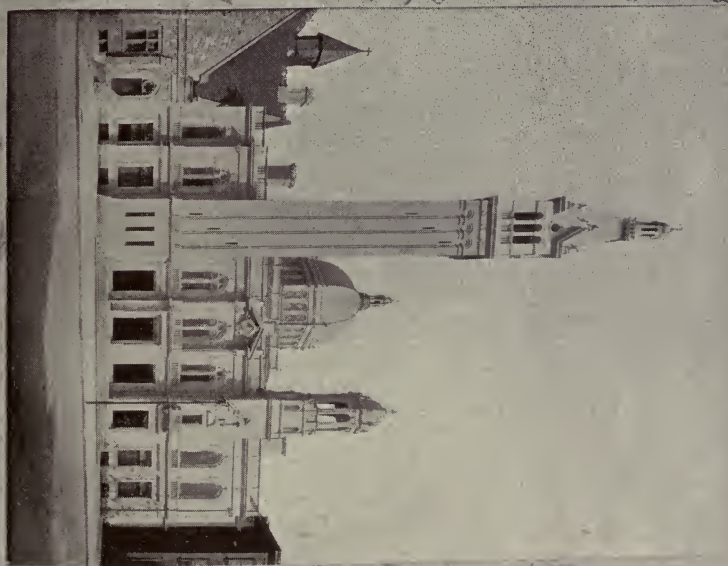
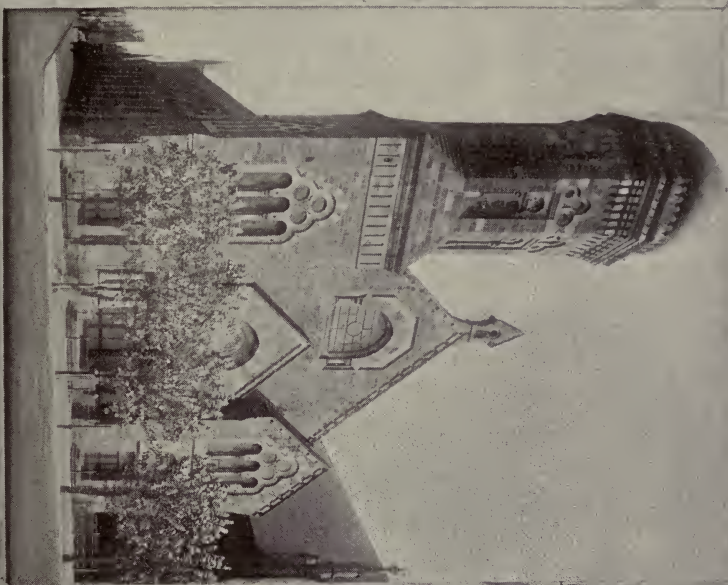
Well is it for the public, and the stage coach company, that they do not put the inventor to the test. He is no empty braggart, this man Evans; a person of active brain and strong conviction, this idea which he cherishes and which men call queer, may be one of the silent harbingers from that unknown realm—world of unfathomed mystery and of untold treasure, whose gateway, to the consciousness of this prosaic, everyday world in which mortals live and breathe and struggle, is inscribed "Invention"—of great things to be accomplished on earth among the races of civilized men. Have people not learned that they are not all-knowing, that much yet remains unrevealed and that preconceived opinions and prejudice and self-interested bias of mind are not true knowledge? So many persons have been ready to laugh to scorn—nay! have laughed to scorn—this earnest, painstaking man of the steam theory; some even believing that he was lacking in mental equilibrium. Is not the question of transportation already solved, in this year, eighteen hundred and four?—when a stage coach departs once a week from Philadelphia for Pittsburg, leaving Hotel-keeper Tomlinson's place on Market street and reaching its destination beyond the high-flung Alleghenies at the picturesque confluence of the Allegheny and the Monongahela, in the space of seven days! Persons who have tried the journey have written to their friends dilating upon the pleasure they experienced and otherwise "giving a certificate of character" to the route and method as it were—such rapid, comfortable travelling, and at a cost of only twenty dollars per passenger with eight dollars additional for meals "at good country inns." This charge likewise includes an allowance of twenty pounds of baggage for each passenger.

Let it be noted that this new line of coaches which thus links the extreme eastern and western sections of the State of Penn is praised by the people and the journals of the day as a marvel in the way of enterprise and rapid transit. It will thus be understood and realized how inopportune is this idea of improving the latest improved method of transportation ; especially since the proposed improvement involves as one of its agencies a portable fire with boiling water, an apparently primitive and crude way of securing force and motion. Men are obstinate, however, inventors certainly not excepted, and the new and rapid line of stage coaches which connects the Delaware with the Ohio appears to have no effect on the plans or spirit of the persevering inventor Evans. What is this announcement printed in the newspapers early in the year eighteen hundred and four ! The steam hobby is now to have a practical test, as this printed card, addressed "to the public," clearly indicates. The inventor relates how he built a machine for cleaning docks—a heavy mud flat—put wheels to it and propelled it over land by an engine one mile and a half and then guided it into the Schuylkill "although its weight was equal to that of two hundred pounds of flour." He then fixed a paddle-wheel at the stern and propelled it by the engine down the Schuylkill and up the Delaware to the eastern front of the city, a distance of sixteen miles, leaving all the vessels that were under sail away behind. This queer craft, a land carriage and a flat boat combined, named by the inventor an "amphibious digger," is made the subject of an exhibition "to the public" by the enterprising owner, and persons are invited to contribute twenty-five cents, if they can afford the sum, one-half of which is to be paid to the workmen who have helped build the machine.

The exhibition comes off and proves successful, the inventor's announcement that "the machine is now to be seen moving round Centre Square at the expense of the workmen, who expect twenty-five cents from every generous person who may come to see its operation," having the effect of drawing a large crowd, the benevolent Mr. Evans having added in his card the intelligence that "all are invited to come and view it, as well those who cannot as those who can spare the money."

The demon of steam is evidently not to be suppressed. The "amphibious digger" and its movement on wheels by the force of the vapory element creates something of a sensation, and inventor Evans finds men coming to shake him by the hand who have for some time past been keeping out of his way. It looks as if he might be success-





SYNAGOGUE RODEF SHALOM, Broad and Mount Vernon Streets.

TEMPLE KENESETH ISRAEL, Broad Street above Columbia Avenue.





ful, in which case he has an invention of no small value. Thenceforth the name of Oliver Evans is inseparably connected in the minds of people with everything relating to the development of power by steam. Not long after the exhibition in Centre Square the inventor, grown bolder and more confident under public approval, makes some remarkable predictions in print; says "the time will come when people will travel in stages moved by steam engines at fifteen to twenty miles an hour. A carriage will leave Washington in the morning, breakfast at Baltimore, dine at Philadelphia and sup in New York on the same day. Railways will be laid of wood or iron, or on smooth paths of broken stone or gravel, to travel as well by night as by day. A steam engine will drive a carriage one hundred and eighty miles in twelve hours, or engines will drive boats ten or twelve miles an hour, and hundreds of boats will run on the Mississippi and other waters as was prophesied thirty years ago (by Fitch), but the velocity of boats can never be made equal to that of carriages upon rails because the resistance in water is eight hundred times more than that in air. Posterity will not be able to discover why the Legislature or Congress did not grant the inventor such protection as might have enabled him to put in operation those great improvements sooner, he having neither asked money nor a monopoly of any existing thing."

Words of true prophesy, long since fulfilled!—though in the fulfilling too late to rekindle the spark of satisfaction and joy which men knew so well, flickering in the deep, earnest eyes of the untiring enthusiast, working so hard for the faith that is in him, with the charm and attractiveness even of gentle woman in aroused sincerity and zeal, and thrice forceful and appealing to the memory in view of the patient and cheerful perseverance, albeit unrewarded, as the closing words, almost pathetic in their mild reproach, so eloquently attest. Yet, it is, perhaps, as well, for the way is still long and tedious for the development of this cherished theory of steam, the combined influences of ignorance, prejudice and self-interest being yet to overcome. How the powerful trio struggle and battle with the genius of vapor through a long course of years and how they are aided and abetted by a formidable enemy known as Canal system! Everywhere in the city and State of Penn there is talk about the necessity of improved means of transportation, yet, even when the subject of a railroad is suggested Canal appears and makes his bow to the public with the air and manner of one who has a prior claim on the attention of his patrons. Railroad speaks for consideration in a certain citizens' meeting in the Philadelphia Court-house in the month of January, year eighteen hun-

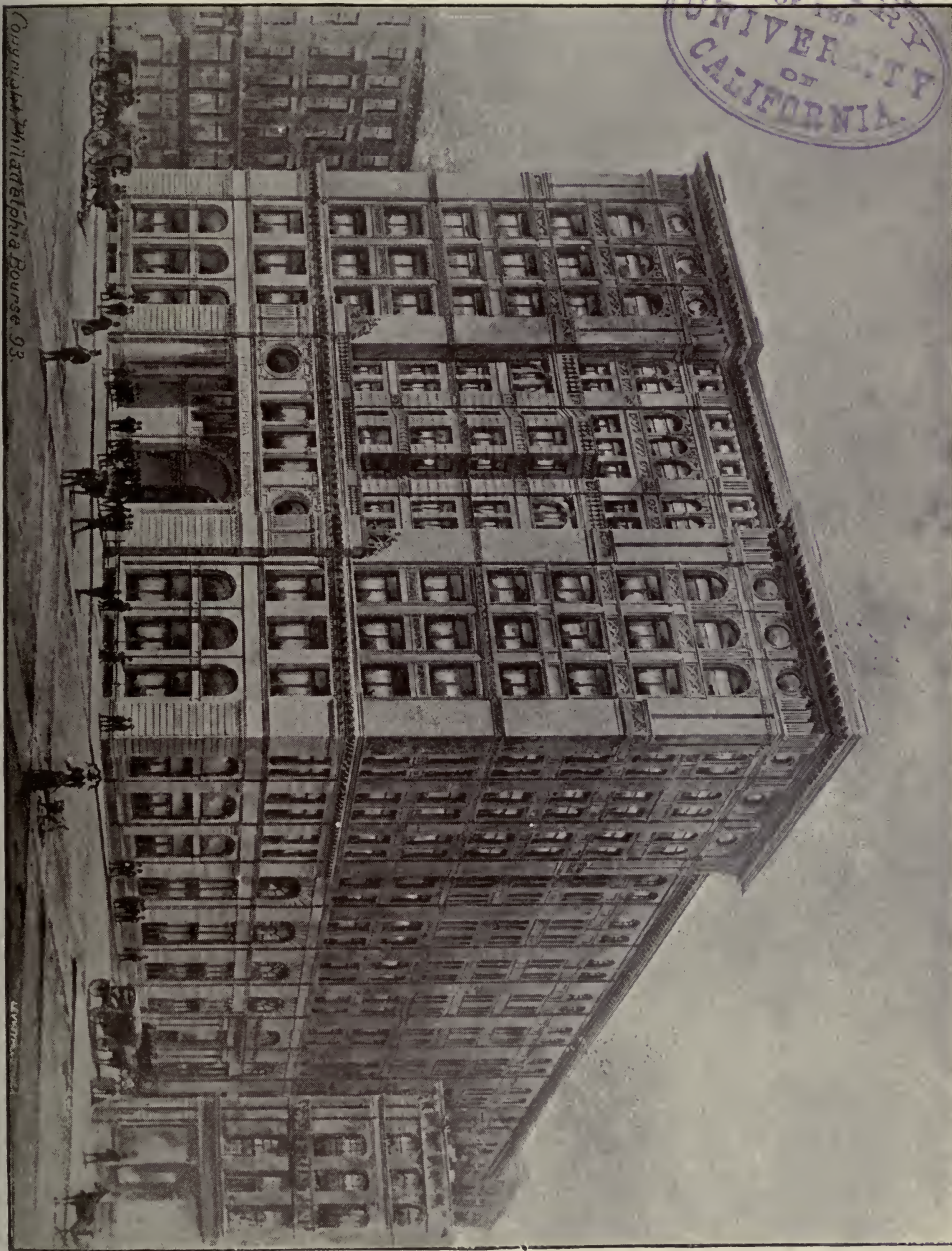
dred and twenty-five, at which assemblage are present such noted figures as General Thomas Cadwalader, Matthew Carey, John Sergeant, Samuel Chew, Jr., Thomas Biddle, Josiah Randall, Samuel Archer and Charles J. Ingersoll. Chief Justice Tilghman presides and Nicholas Biddle is Secretary. Public interest is strongly aroused now over a certain scheme to dig a Canal from the Susquehanna to the Allegheny and thence to Erie's lake ; the meeting appoints a committee to take said proposed improvements into consideration. Railroad asks to be included in the subject matter of the Committees' deliberations, its spokesman, Mr. Ingersoll, presenting a motion "directing the Committee to inquire into the expediency of railroads."

The Committee takes the matter in hand and discusses it and ponders over it for several weeks. An adjourned meeting is called, opportunely at a time which fits in nicely with the enthusiasm and felicitations of the friends of the Canal idea who have just completed the Schuylkill navigation enterprise and are prepared to show the public that, as means of transportation of both persons and freight, nothing can excel it. The Committee files in with all the importance in expression and bearing usually attaching to such bodies, and presents its report. Canal shouts in triumph through every line of the interesting document. If the Committee did obey the motion to "inquire into the expediency of railroads" it says nothing about it, and Railroad must sit silent and chagrined and witness its potent rival carry off the honors of the occasion. Yet it is fighting a slow, cautious battle. It has its friends here and there, and it entertains no notion of retiring from the field. The meeting appoints Chief Justice Tilghman a Committee of One to address a memorial to the Legislature on the subject of internal improvements. The Committee's report, which sets forth "That, in the opinion of this meeting, a communication by water between the Susquehanna and the Allegheny rivers and between those rivers and Lake Erie ought to be opened with all practicable expedition at such points as a suitable board of skillful and experienced engineers may select," recommends that the thing be done at the public expense, as the work would be "regarded with jealousy in the hands of an individual or corporation."

Meanwhile, the Committee is experiencing an educational process which disposes it to give audience to Railroad. The latter is trying to make the public understand it ; and the public, whether because of the din and cry made by Canal in its irrepressible war against its rival, or whether from the novelty of the subject, finds its comprehension of the thing somewhat slow. The Committee publishes an address giving



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THE PHILADELPHIA BOURSE, Fifth and Market Streets.





information as to the proper way to construct a railroad ; whereupon, a few days afterwards another publication appears from an unknown source urging the importance of increasing canal accommodations in the State. One of the facts in connection with commercial statistics brought out by the agitation is the former superiority of Philadelphia over New York as a place of export ; the figures showing that her shipments to foreign ports had been forty per cent. in excess of those of the city on the Hudson until the Canal system, inaugurated in the former province of the Dutch, was developed under De Witt Clinton, since which event New York is rapidly approaching Philadelphia in commercial greatness. All the more reason why the much talked of internal improvements of the former province of Penn should be decided upon and vigorously pushed.

In this conflict in the public mind between the canal and the railroad it is worth while to observe that the canal is already established, in places, while the railroad is an unknown, unseen and unseeable thing. Nobody can tell much about it save what they read in the European prints concerning George Stephenson's experiments in England about this time. The canal has had its "opening day," its occasions of honor, and has been toasted, feted and flattered by distinguished people in several instances as Philadelphia recalls to her glory. Did she not entertain De Witt Clinton during a recent visit as the guest of the city, fresh from the scene of the triumph of his great undertakings in the way of internal improvements in New York,—entertaining him to the length of taking him down the Delaware to inspect the recently completed Delaware and Chesapeake Canal? And now that the Schuylkill Navigation Company's enterprise is completed, is it strange that the friends and stockholders of the canal companies are pleased and—what is more to the point—determined not to allow this idea of a railroad to interfere with their business and their profits?

That Court house Committee meanwhile seems to be losing sight of the interest of the canal companies. Here, in the month of March, year eighteen hundred and twenty-five, it is in reality publishing an article on railroads with a plan thereof taken from a European source. The *United States Gazette*, which appears to give both sides of the ever vital question impartially, publishes a description of a railroad in use near Philadelphia, at Leiper's stone quarries in Delaware County. Likewise it has a description of a steam carriage with three wheels, invented by a certain T. W. Parker, of Edgar County, State of Illinois, which might as well have been Egypt at this time, in view of the lack of means of rapid communication. Evidently the genius of in-

vention is at work on all sides, and it is not canals that occupy his time but railroads. There is John Stevens who so thoroughly convinces capitalists as well as the State Legislature that railroads are the coming means of travel that the important body at Harrisburg passes an act giving him and his associates power and authority to go on with their proposed enterprise; enacting that "John Connelly, Michael Baker, Horace Binney, Stephen Girard, Samuel Humphreys, of Philadelphia; Emmor Bradley, of Chester County; Amos Ellmaker, of Lancaster City, and John Barbour and William Wright, of Columbia, shall be constituted 'the President and Directors and Company of a Company to be called The President, Directors, and Company of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company.'"

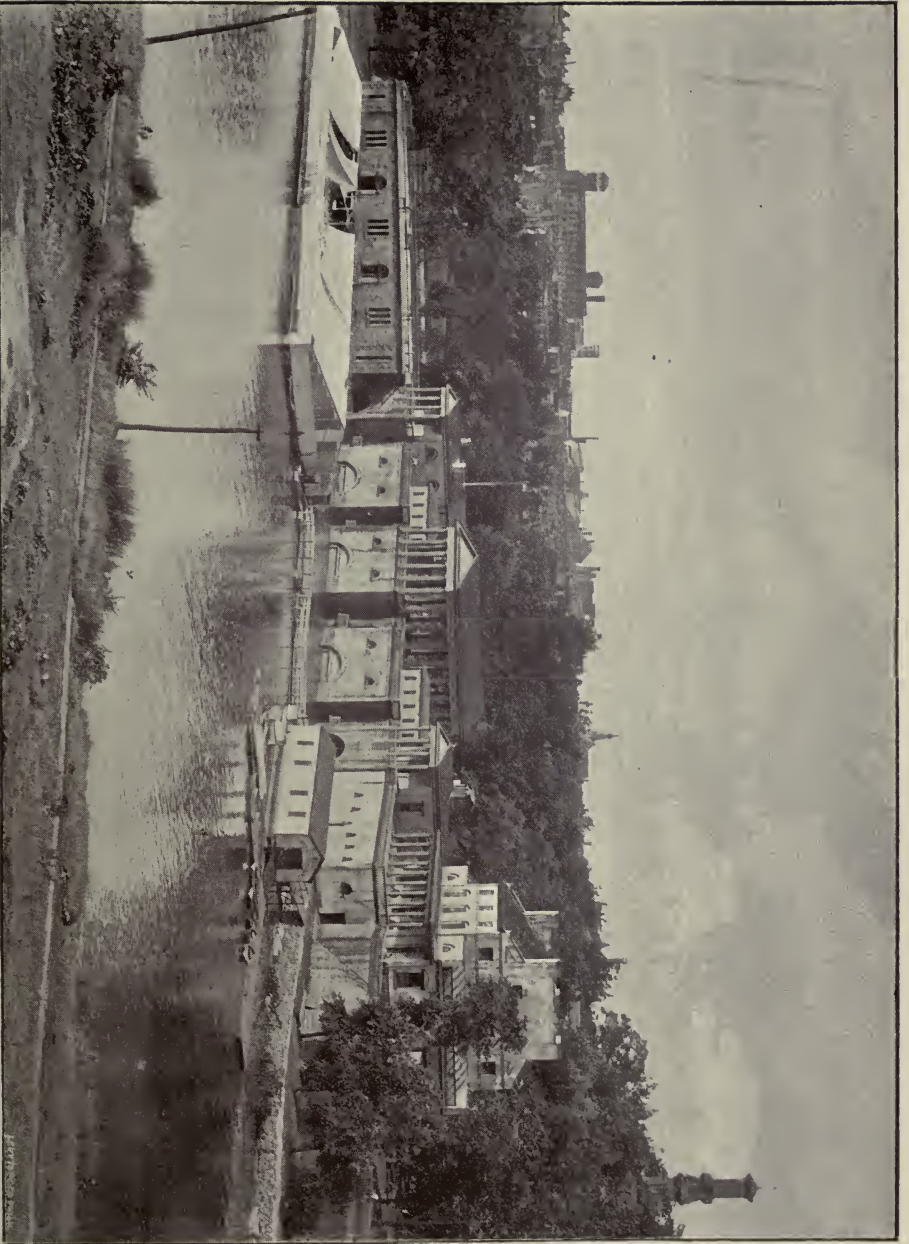
The aforesaid John Connelly is named as President to exercise office until an election shall be held under the provisions of the Act. The Company is given a life of fifty years, and authorized to issue six thousand shares of stock at one hundred dollars per share. Forthwith there is much talk about the proposed road, many statements about the progress of the work which prove to be erroneous. Even the usually reliable *United States Gazette* says: "The Pennsylvania iron road is to commence at Hamiltonville." One of the much-interested public writes and asks "What is a railroad?" whereat the *Gazette* editor, being too busy to explain, doubtless, refers the question to "some of our correspondents who may be able to throw light on the matter."

Thus things go on,—the struggle between the canal men who want none of this railroad business in Pennsylvania, and the railroad advocates who see wonders in the experiments with steam. The fourth day of August, year eighteen hundred and twenty-five, finds a convention in the interest of "internal improvements" in session at Harrisburg, Joseph Lawrence, of Philadelphia, being elected chairman, and Francis R. Shunk and N. P. Hobart, secretaries.

The canal seems to possess the advantage in this body, resolutions being adopted favoring the digging of a waterway from the Susquehanna to the Allegheny, and from the latter stream to Lake Erie. Only for a brief time, however!—the railroad is here in convention also, and has its friends. By a strange coincidence there is published at this time, almost in the very hour of the adoption of the canal resolutions, a paper from William Strickland, the gentleman who was sent abroad by the "Pennsylvania Society for Internal Improvements" for the purpose of discovering the best means of transportation, and making report thereof. He stands forth in the report as a vigorous champion of railroads. Writing from Edinburg in the month of June,



GENERAL VIEW OF FAIRMOUNT WATER WORKS.







he says, trenchantly: "I state distinctly my full conviction of the utility and decided superiority of railways above every other mode as means of conveyance, and one that ought to command serious attention and adoption by the people of Pennsylvania."

The champions of the railroad derive fresh encouragement from this letter. The canal men are equal to the occasion, however, and an article appears in the *United States Gazette*, reprinted from the *Williamsport Gazette*, in which the writer argues that railroads are inexpedient in Pennsylvania, and canals are much more economical. Again the railroad men meet the challenge, and in the *Gazette* of the day following the publication of the article mentioned, is published a long letter in favor of their method. The movements in connection with railroads is drawing recruits. Here, two months later, in October, is James Buchanan—afterwards President of the United States—attending a meeting of citizens in Columbia, and making a speech in favor of railroads. Grievous as it is to relate that charter of the Legislature giving to John Stevens and his friends the right to build a railroad from Philadelphia to Columbia has not amounted to anything, the supposition being strong that all the proposed undertaking lacks is money, and that no body of men can be found willing to advance a sum sufficient for an enterprise so great and costly; or, is it money in reality that is lacking, or faith? Is not there one among those incorporators and directors named Stephen Girard, shrewd and thrifty Philadelphian merchant and wealthiest man in Pennsylvania? If an individual of so much sound judgment and known enterprise in business allows this Railroad scheme, with which his name is officially connected, to languish, can it be expected that persons outside, with money to invest, will step forward and risk a penny in the thing now or hereafter? Wherefore it appears that this persistent and importunate visitant, Railroad, which has been knocking at the doors of the Legislature and at those of the counting-rooms of merchants and bankers, is under some suspicion, an unwelcome character at the temples of the money-lenders, and altogether uncertain, unreliable and unprofitable. The conservative opinion of the day frowns upon the newcomer, and they who advocate its claims risk much in the estimate of those who have made a success in the world of business and whose disapproval of any given undertaking means much in determining the popular judgment. Truly the man of faith in new and novel things, devised for the benefit of mankind, has a rugged road as he threads the pathway of a varying public opinion founded on preconceived notions, prejudice, force of habit and real ignorance. Things

are invented of great worth, as was Oliver Evans' "amphibious digger," but the inventor is in advance of his day, and his brother-in-misery, the promoter, becomes a familiar and not in the least acceptable figure at the haunts of capitalists and of persons of worldly influence, endeavoring in his strong persuasive way to secure some slight recognition and support, only to discover in many cases that his hobby excites doubt and distrust, because, for one reason, it is something new, as if everything in the way of man's handiwork was not new at one time or other! Nevertheless, the inventor and the promoter go on over their thorny road, the real pioneers in all industrial progress, and in the course of years if life continues, they find their fellow-men educated up to their ideas, and gladly utilizing that which cost them so much labor and patience,—utilizing it sometimes to their profit, oftener after all hope of reward is gone and only the realization of disappointment and keen regrets is left as their portion for the weary toil and effort.

How many efforts shall begin and fail before Capital in this State of Penn gives countenance to the Railroad? Here in this session of the Legislature, which grants the incorporators of the Philadelphia and Columbia scheme, their charter is another measure in the uncertain scale of senatorial deliberation, providing for the construction of a railroad from Harrisburg to Pittsburg; originating in the Senate only to fail in the House.

Stevens and his friends having failed to make use of the charter given them by the Legislature the State finally takes the matter in hand, constructs the road itself from the Lancastrian city to Philadelphia, overcoming the problem of obstructive hills by establishing incline planes, creating a necessity for many transfers but pleasing the people and the shippers of goods immensely. From such small beginning the railroad develops gradually, its powerful rival, the Canal system, receding from public favor as the utility of the steam-propelling method advances until the Delaware, and not alone the Ohio and the Monongahela, but the great lakes and the gigantic Mississippi are joined by the vast system of the company which bears the name of the old Province of Penn and verifies the prophecy of the clear-sighted Oliver Evans, spoken in an era of experiment and speculative thought when mortals knew not their powers of mind—save the prophet himself—but were groping for that which came with time and circumstances in the first half of the great nineteenth century to revolutionize—the greatest revolution of all—the state and condition of that being called man, as they had been for all the centuries of which civilization has note.





ACADEMY OF NATURAL SCIENCES, Nineteenth and Race Streets, Logan Square.





## CHAPTER XI.

THE DUEL BETWEEN THE CANAL AND THE RAILROAD SUPPLEMENTED BY A LONG AND TEDIOUS STRUGGLE BETWEEN GAS AND A POPULAR PREJUDICE IN WHICH THE FORMER COMES OUT VICTOR—FIRST GAS PIPES IN AMERICA LAID IN PHILADELPHIA.

**I**N all this striving and struggling between the aspiring devices of men, clamorous for recognition, for utilization in the great industrial hurly-burly which is evolving each day some new idea or proclaiming some fresh discovery for the benefit of mankind, there is one thing to be observed in the ever-growing and constantly vitalizing Philadelphia: every man has an opinion on the subject of the numerous innovations coming up and he takes position either for or against them. This prolonged and uncertain duel between the Canal and the Railroad is at the outset greatly to the advantage of the former since its claims are self-evident, demonstrable to the average reason, and extremely simple. Besides, included among all its ready-made converts there are its hosts of especial friends and zealous advocates in the persons of those who live along or contiguous to navigable streams, which being available as feeders to the Canal and likewise indicating in their own smooth flow the most practicable and economical of routes, make it reasonably certain that the much-desired water-way will operate in close proximity to their homes and render them easily accessible to the large centres of population.

The untried and untested Railroad, in its early struggle with its antagonist, commands no such simple and ready means of accommodation. It is an undemonstrated, perplexing, occult thing, especially in the matter of this incomprehensible theory of steam. The average mind cannot fathom the intricacies of an engine, and therefore it is that the business of an engineer is a skilled trade. The Canal requires no more than a huge ditch filled to a certain depth with water, and its simple locks and wings operating openly before the eye are clearly understandable. But this Railroad idea is deep—too deep for the average comprehension of the people, and thus the glad promoters of the water-way idea of transportation find the majority largely on their side, and for a number of years they hold the disputed ground. The clear-minded, far-seeing Oliver Evans is not here in this year of grace eighteen hundred and twenty-five when “internal improvements” is the uppermost thought in Philadelphia, and when the Canal and the Railroad are having their, for a time, unequal struggle.

Yet there is another thing eliciting attention in these progressive days when the city is growing so rapidly and innovation is clamoring for admittance at all its doors. The subject of illuminating the streets and houses with gas is ever coming up, irrepressible, undisposable, bothersome. There has been reference made hitherto to the fact of the vast debt owed by Americans, by modern civilization for that matter, to the advanced minds, the ingenuity and the liberal character of the Italians. The members of the polite and philosophic race are ever coming up apparently when there is occasion to mention the discovery or the introduction of some great boon to mankind. Not alone Columbus and Vespucci in their large sphere of action, involving the finding and the accurate description of a new world, but painstaking Italian scientists and demonstrators have a leading part in the enrichment of the people whose existence on American soil in this era was made possible by the Columbian event. There was the firm of Michael Ambroise & Co., Italian fire-workers, who had an amphitheatre for exhibitions on Arch street, near Ninth, in the year seventeen hundred and ninety-six, when they created something of a sensation by the display of inflammable gas; representations of "temples, mosques, masonic emblems and allegorical devices," according to Westcott. The sight of the "inflammable air" was enough to arouse the curiosity and the interest of citizens who regarded it as a great novelty. The innovator on the subject of gas appeared seven years later, or in eighteen hundred and three, in the form of J. C. Henfrey, who proposes to the Councils that for a consideration he will light the city by gas lights "burned in high towers"—evidence clearly that the modern electric-light tower can not lay claim to strict originality. The Council refuse the proposition, of course; there is not enough knowledge of the nature and ways of this gas to justify so much risk to life and property.

Yet the gas question, like the later question of the Railroad, will not rest. Refusal of privileges does not silence it. Another application before Councils fourteen years later, in the year eighteen hundred and seventeen;—petition of James McMurtrie who wishes to introduce gas lighting. Twenty-one years from the date of the Ambroise demonstration, and fourteen years from the time Henfrey proposed to illuminate the town with gas from towers, and no gas plant yet! The wheels of progress, rapid as they seemed to move in these olden days, are verily at a standstill before the eyes of the American of the Columbian year in this nineteenth century.

There was Dr. Charles Kugler, one year before James McMurtrie's application in eighteen hundred and sixteen, exhibiting to the public



BROAD STREET FRONT OF BALDWIN LOCOMOTIVE WORKS.





in Peale's Museum in the State House "gas lights and lamps burning without wicks or oil;" the effect of which is so satisfactory that Warren & Wood introduce the gas light at their new theatre, quite a safe venture since the doctor has a gas apparatus himself with which he has been providing the means of illumination for his own house for some months past. It is considered a strange thing that Councils at this time and for years thereafter refuse to sanction any production of gas under municipal privilege. There are times when the Councils are more liberal in their views on the subject, and again there are occasions when they look upon it with disfavor. For example, Peale, who has been lighting his Museum in the State House with it for several years past, finds the Councils objecting to its continuance in the year eighteen hundred and eighteen, and he therefore dispenses with it, much to the regret of his patrons.

Meanwhile the inflammable mystery is being used in Masonic Hall, which has a small manufactory producing it for its own service, and continues to be used there until the ninth of March, year eighteen hundred and nineteen, when the hall is burned, and gas is supposed to be responsible for the disaster. Yet the Masons are not ready to do away with it, and when their hall is rebuilt, in the year eighteen hundred and twenty-two, it also has a new gas-works attached. The Masons have faith in the thing; desire to lay pipes in the streets to furnish other consumers, but Councils refuse permission. Had the privilege been allowed the Masons would have furnished the new Chestnut Street Theatre with illumination, but as a consequence the theatre is lighted in the old way with oil lamps. The struggle between gas and the popular prejudice continues. Even in the year eighteen hundred and twenty-five, when the Canal and Railroad are beginning to know each other better as antagonists, gas has its own battle in the more restricted territory of the city. An effort is made in the Legislature in this year to pass a bill to incorporate the Philadelphia Gas Light Company with power to manufacture and furnish gas and lay pipes in the streets. This measure is fair game for all the opponents of gas, including the Councils, which becomes thoroughly aroused and opposes the proposed legislation so vigorously it is defeated. Meantime the public has been busy with protests through the medium of the newspapers. One citizen, writing to the *United States Gazette*, denounces the proposition to light the streets and houses with gas as "a folly, unsafe, unsure, a trouble and a nuisance. Common lamps take the shine off all gas lights that ever exhaled their

intolerable stench." Other citizens declare gas is a nuisance and the popular clamor against it is very great.

The gas men are not discouraged. Granted that they have figured out prospectively a fine profit in the business, they are, nevertheless, advanced and progressive, otherwise they would not have the faith to risk their time and their money in such a thing. They try again in the year eighteen hundred and twenty-six but without result. The Councils finally appoint a committee to inquire into the subject. This is a step forward,—an immense stride, in fact, if measured by its past course. A certain Robinson & Long—Henry Robinson and Robert Carey Long—are connected with a scheme for lighting Baltimore and they want a similar privilege in Philadelphia. The Committee of the Councils considers their proposition, and after the lapse of a year the Committee reports favorably upon it. Common Council adopts the report, but the Select branch refuses its assent and the question still languishes. Again, in the year eighteen hundred and thirty an attempt is made to obtain a charter and privilege, but like all previous efforts it fails.

It is worthy of observation here that in the experience of these later endeavors in the direction of securing the gas-light, the Councils do not refuse on account of any doubt on the question of the utility and merit of the scheme. They have begun to think that if the business of supplying gas to streets and to individuals is so profitable as to cause men to make such strenuous efforts to get it, the city might as well have the benefit of the scheme itself. Yet the petitions and attempts to secure the coveted prize do not end on account of any new attitude on the part of the city. Peter A. Browne petitions Councils for privilege to lay a pipe on Carpenter street and Lodge alley, crossing Seventh street and connecting with the gas-works at the Masonic Hall. The Councils finally grant him the privilege asked, but he does not avail himself of it.

The Councils have grown familiar with the subject, and the more they know of it the more liberal they are becoming. In fact, the people who are opposed to gas and who swayed the Councils by the vigor of their belief for so long a time are beginning to call the Councils hard names as they find they are more favorably disposed toward gas. Their action does not deter the Councils, however. They have a committee appointed especially for the purpose of dealing with this gas question; committee being instructed to ascertain the cost of erecting and operating a works with a capacity sufficient to supply the city. The committee goes to work with zeal and reports the result of





CHESTNUT STREET, FROM LEDGER BUILDING, Sixth and Chestnut Streets, looking west.





its investigations and calculations. The business-like proceedings of the Councils on the gas question still further displeases the citizens who are opposed to the thing. Remonstrances begin to flow into the chambers of the Councils. One of the members of the opposition, in his remonstrance, protested against "the plan now in agitation of lighting the city with gas as one of the most inexpedient, offensive and dangerous nature; in saying this we are fully sustained by the accounts of explosion, loss of life, and great destruction of property where this mode of lighting has been adopted. We consider gas to be as ignitable as gunpowder and nearly as fatal in its effects."

Papers are submitted likewise in favor of the introduction of gas; documents embodying statistics from cities and towns abroad, showing the benefit of the thing. While the purpose of the Councils to so legislate as to make the City the owner of the proposed gas-works is clearly foreshadowed applications from private persons still flow into the two Chambers. Mark Richards and James J. Rush write to the Councils that they are authorized to offer, in return for the privilege they seek, to light four lamps in every square free of charge; they only desire the right to lay pipes and supply consumers. Rejected. D. B. Lee and W. Beach propose, in this year eighteen hundred and thirty-four, to erect a tower and supply the light therefrom at a moderate cost—the second occasion in which the tower figures in this gas controversy. Rejected.

The Councils this year, still non-committal, resolve to send an expert to Europe to make inquiry as to the use of gas there. The emissary chosen is Samuel V. Merrick. He sails at once and returning in October, eighteen hundred and thirty-four, makes a report strongly favorable to gas. This practically settles the controversy. The two Chambers in March, year eighteen hundred and thirty-five, pass an ordinance for the "construction and management of the Philadelphia Gas Works," and the city has, through all the long siege of private applicants and enterprising promoters, come out victor in a matter affecting every person and household within her limits. In this outcome the City of Penn takes her place among her sister towns of the land as the first to lay gas mains, erect a plant, and furnish to the public the new system of illumination,—a precedent entirely fit and proper in the leading American city and the place of birth of the nation.





MANUFACTURERS' CLUB, Walnut and Broad Streets.





## CHAPTER XII.

THE PAST IN CONTRAST WITH THE EARLY YEARS OF THE GOLDEN ERA—PHILADELPHIA  
OF REVOLUTIONARY DAYS AND OF THE DAYS OF GREAT INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT  
UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF THE AGE OF INVENTION—THE CENTENNIAL OF 1876.

IT is now the staid “oldest Philadelphian,” with his set ways, rigid habits, personal recollections of Revolutionary days—of the first Congress and of great deeds attending the birth of a big nation in a new world, with Liberty and Independence expressive of its fundamental principle—finds himself, as it seems, a stranger in the city of his birth, with its stirring memories of devoted patriotism, of self-sacrifice and unfaltering courage and faith through all the ills in the power of a despotic foe to inflict. New things are dawning before his failing vision and he gazes uncertain, perplexed and doubtful as he rubs his strong-bowed spectacles, scarce knowing whether he is sleeping or awake. For, the forces of nature, compounded, united, diffused and directed by the power of man are doing things in these days, as the years approach the towering milestone of the half-way point in the century, which in a less enlightened era would be ascribed to the might of Satan himself. What means that black, bulky thing of iron, flying over earth’s plane with a lot of wooden carriages in its wake, faster than the driven clouds of the heavens, with its long, serpentine trail of smoke, slowly ascending and black against the sky in the fading evening light? And now—hark! a long, loud, ear-piercing shriek as the flying, steaming thing approaches the old city of Penn., makes it more than ever sure that this aged citizen of heroic memories has lived to see strange times and things undreamt of in his earlier days. No longer is this renowned revolutionary city, rearing its head erect and impressive before the wondering gaze of nations, the quiet, peaceful town of the “Night watch,” and of the banquets at that famous City Tavern with Washington, Lafayette, John Adams, Rochambeau, M. de Luzerne (the French minister), firm old Chief Justice McKean, Robert Morris, Franklin, and the whole patriot host, so grand and stately in the memory with their high aims and lofty principles, gracing the hospitable board and pledging with the sparkle of good wine the weal and prosperity of the new-born nation. A new day has come to the American City of Independence as to all cities where civilization holds sway; and the man of years, as he gazes upon

the strange faces and the figures that jostle him on the street, fresh from the uttermost parts of the land whence they departed only a few days ago, shakes his head sadly and repairs to his old style home to brood and meditate, reviewing once more in his memory the patriot troop in patient, toilsome procession as it moves on that eventful march which had its culmination at Monmouth; or, later, as with faces bent southward, it streams into town by way of Trenton, Washington, Rochambeau, Chastellux, Knox and Moultrie, with the cheering thousands on all the streets, the dignified Congress and M. de Luzerne viewing the spectacle from the State House, with De Soissonnais' brilliant French regiment, with "facings of rose color and white and rose colored plumes in the caps of the grenadiers" creating wild enthusiasm on that memorable and world-thrilling move against Cornwallis at Yorktown.

Well may the aged citizen muse and yearn for things as he knew them of yore. This new world is not his world; the new day which has dawned is strange and unseemly. Old land-marks are going and the memory of old things, of great deeds, will be lost in the hurry and confusion of these new and ungainly contrivances of men, levelling the earth, penetrating the hills and making people so active and busy they scarcely have time to exchange the courtesies of the day with the ceremonious manner of the olden time. He sees old structures demolished; the street along which Washington and his troops marched has changed, lost its identity, and the rows of grand buildings which now face it from either side are not the ones he knew in his younger days. The Delaware front is changed; great wharves, far-reaching with their tedious miles of "bolted and girded capacity for ships" stand boldly against the deep and restless tidal stream. He walks along Chestnut street—historic thoroughfare—gazes at the massive buildings of marble and granite and sighs for the old brick structures so familiar to his younger days, and then turning, faces the State House! Grand, imposing edifice! It stands as of yore, and beneath that memorable dome hangs the world-famed bell, mute symbol now of an act so simple, yet so great and momentous in its effect upon the destiny of such a vast and important portion of mankind. So stands, likewise, venerable Carpenters' Hall, scene of the first meeting of the Colonial Congress and ever a monument to the thrift and prosperity of the condition of the Philadelphian mechanic.

With all the improvement, the innovations, industrial expansion, consolidation of districts and extension of streets—until out of twelve hundred miles thereof nine hundred miles are paved—the city of





CHESTNUT STREET, from corner of Seventh, looking west.





Penn has held fast to her traditions, to her early spirit of patriotism, of philanthropy, of charity, of hospitality. And what a spirit of patriotism from the beginning! One year after the Declaration of Independence, although in the throes of war she made the most of that first anniversary and never did the voice of patriotism rise higher and never was celebration more proper and fit. The Congress is at the head of the affair; gives a dinner to civil and military notables at the City Tavern, at which Rahl's captured Hessian band furnishes the music—truly the irony of fate was there exemplified!—while a corps of deserters from the British army now in the service of Georgia's command discharges patriotic salutes, assuredly an open manifestation of goodwill toward the patriotic occasion. After their feasting the Congress and their guests must review a certain famous artillery battalion, the Maryland Lighthorse, and likewise a brigade of noted fighters from North Carolina, said review taking place on Second street. Meanwhile, all the vessels in the harbor display bunting, man their yards and fire salutes. The great celebration closes in the evening with the ringing of bells, which joyous demonstration is led by the most noted of the lot, the State House giant of the world-rounding lungs.

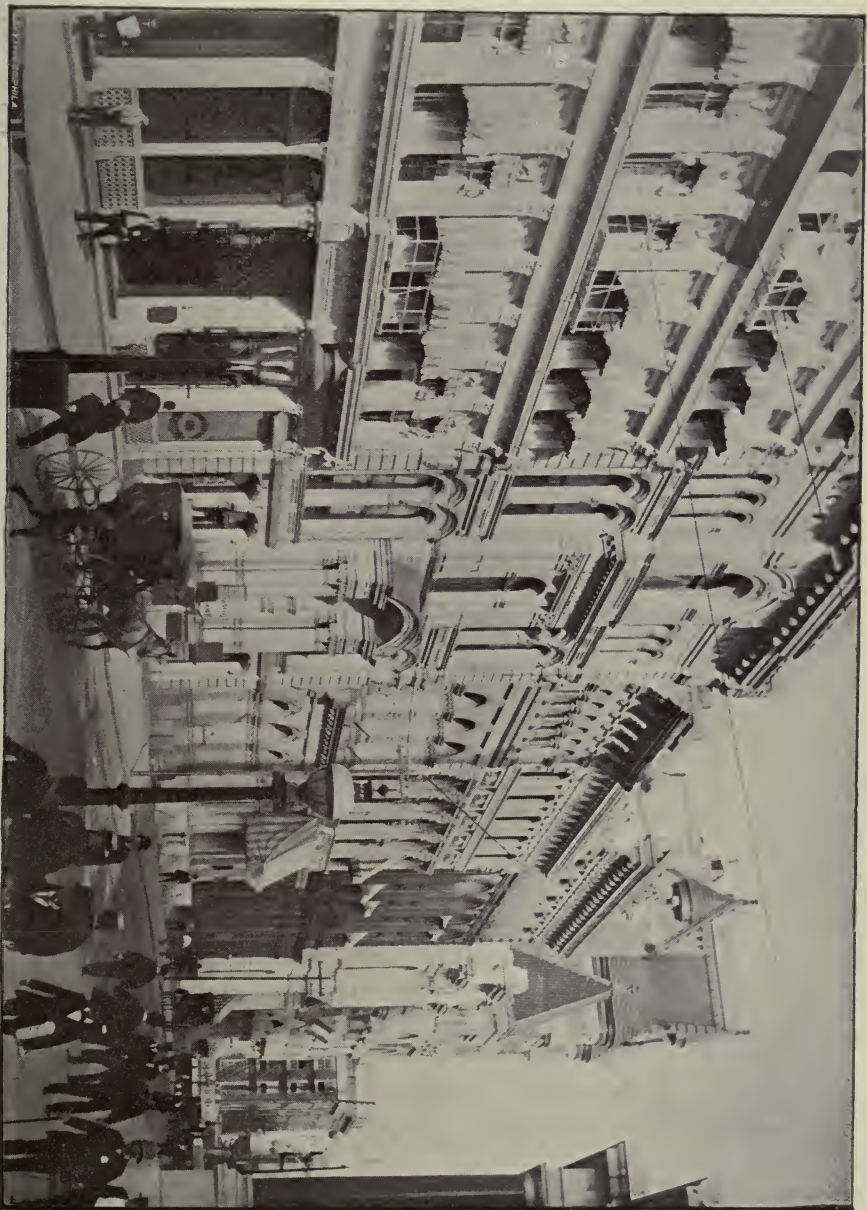
The second anniversary of the Declaration comes most happily, for many reasons. Britain's hosts leave Philadelphia in May after a nine months' stay in the patriot town, and we have seen Washington's fighters in pursuit across the Jersey meadows, Captain Allen McLane and his cavalry ever pressing them closely until on a certain eventful day, the twenty-eighth of June, the American army assails the enemy at Monmouth, and there Britain meets its first great disaster. Sir Henry Clinton with the remnant of his force flees to New York, while a great number of his men, eight hundred at least, desert and hasten to Philadelphia to join the American cause, arriving on the Fourth of July, of all times! The huge victory of the American arms and the presence of the great platoon of deserters from the enemy are enough to make the dignified Congress go into rhapsodies and to repair for the purpose of a fitting celebration, both of the anniversary of the great day and of the late victory, to that popular hostelry on Second street, the City Tavern; the Congress having previously been thoughtful enough to recommend to the people, in view of the scarcity of candles and the heat of the weather, that there be no illumination.

How this Fourth of July anniversary, celebrated thus by the Congress and the people of the patriotic American city, Philadelphia—who of all people had the right to celebrate it—has stamped itself

deep on the heart of every American ! Throughout the space of the mighty land, with its almost seventy million souls,—nay, beyond wide seas wherever the American roams,—he knows that wondrous day and feels the thrill in every fibre as he recalls to memory the deed enacted in the time of the tottering infancy of his nation in the old tableted building of brick, to be known ever after as Independence Hall, in the American town on the bank of the Delaware. What memories the day recalls and what a vast amount of history of this American nation is narrated when the reason for its celebration and the consequences of the thing which was done on that day are faithfully told !

Small wonder then, if the aged Philadelphian, nearing his earthly goal in the dawn of the golden era of railroads, telegraph and the countless additional devices and improvements of man, should look back on the stirring days of his youth and marvel at the change, and even long for the close of his mortal career ere all things become new and strange. For, this new thing among men, the railroad and its supple, sinuous companion, the telegraph, are producing marvels even greater than themselves, among all conditions of men, and old Nature is yielding up her long-hidden secrets on every side until the brain reels at the swift succession of wonderful things being revealed and the rapidity with which they are revolutionizing the conditions of human society, enabling man to see himself as he was in the days of his darkness and causing him to start appalled at the immense distance he has traversed in human knowledge within a period of less than half a century. Fitting it was that the city of American independence, with an energy and precision that ever characterizes her undertakings, should have set about and celebrated the Centennial of the Declaration promulgated from her own Town Hall, by a great World's Exposition, the first ever held in the American land, thus gathering together under her auspices the best specimens of the useful productions of man of almost every clime and race, Christian, Mohammedan and Pagan. Shall it be said a new era began for this city of Penn with the Exhibition of eighteen hundred and seventy-six—an era of accelerated material progress, industrial expansion and architectural transformation?—an enlargement of boundaries, an application of manifold ideas associated with municipal improvement, novelty, dexterity and increased excellence in domestic manufacture, and in the operation of human ingenuity and talent in many and various directions. These best and cleverest of the bright nations of the earth, who, in gala procession, pour into the city of Independence bearing aloft hands full of the latest products of their varied trades and crafts, to display with





BLOCK OF BANK BUILDINGS, Chestnut Street from corner of Fifth, looking east.





congratulatory demonstration in the hour of national felicity and rejoicing, may both teach and learn, for it is no uncommon task undertaken by the famous American town, but a thing requiring all her proverbial efficiency and energy to accomplish. Shall she who has sheltered the first American Congress, guarded the weal of the infant nation, caught with glad surprise the first note of Fame's trumpet when it proclaimed the greatness of Washington, and been from those stirring days the Mecca of all whose eyes brightened at the rays of her patriotism and bounty—shall this renowned Philadelphia fail in her effort, with the world assembled beneath her hospitable roof and the world's products emptied so lavishly at her feet?

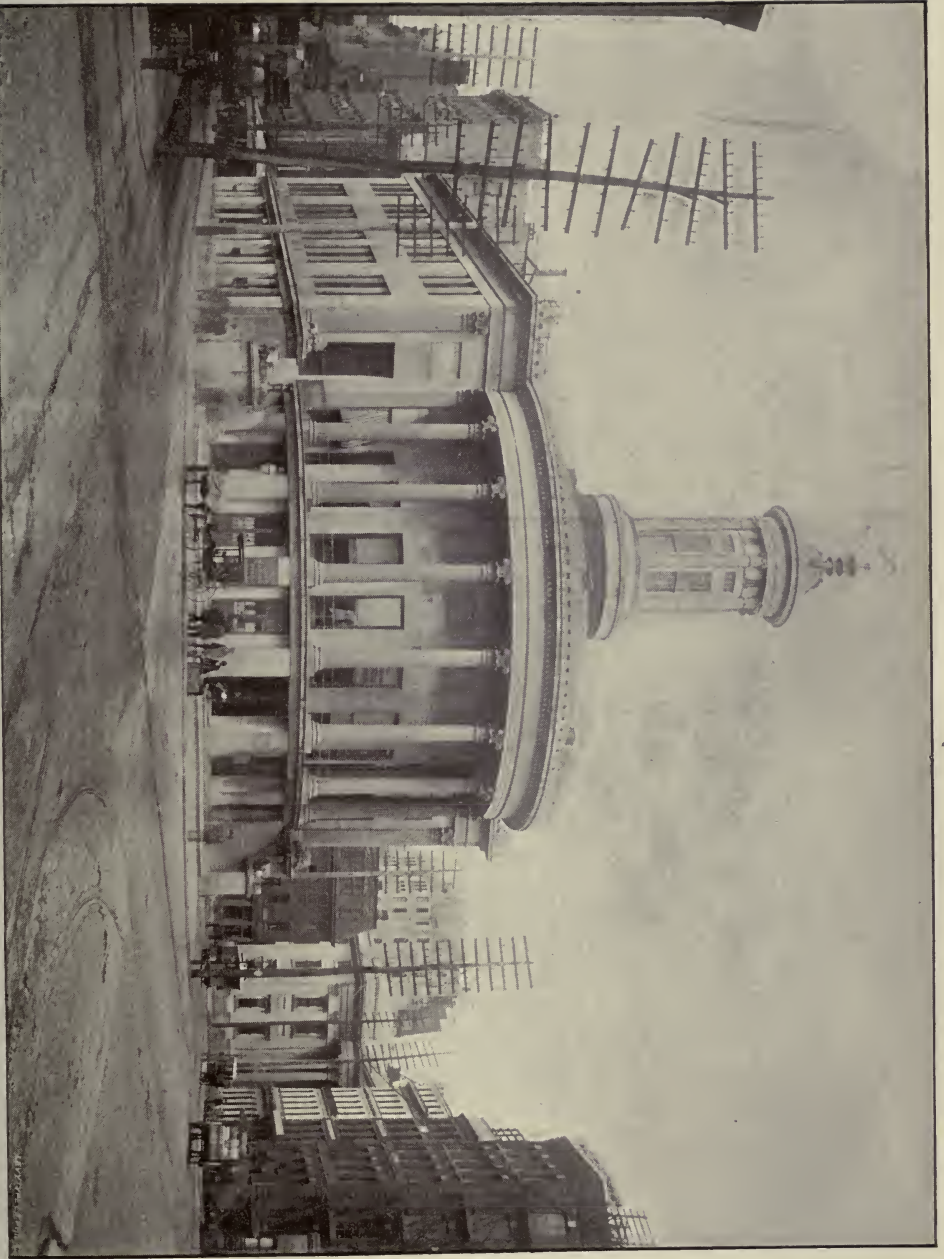
Read the records of the undertaking of eighteen hundred and seventy-six! Unaided by that Congress which her patriotism made possible, and looking solely to her own exertions, the mammoth buildings were reared, the grounds adorned and beautified in a portion of that Fairmount Park, with its twenty-eight hundred acres, and at the appointed time was revealed before the eyes of the world the greatest exposition of the products of men, American and foreign, known to that day in Earth's history. Thus, in the execution of the task involved, was employed the same spirit and energy which barred the Delaware against her mightiest foe, which caught and moulded from the disorganized and shifting mass of patriots in the time of the nation's direst need, a formidable, organized and disciplined mass of fearless militia, and which, through all the turmoil of war, kept her industries increasing, her capacity for useful production growing and her area of mills and factories and workshops enlarging, to an extent that made her capable of supplying her sister States throughout the land with all the necessities and many of the luxuries of life, much to the chagrin of Britain, which saw no advantage in a bout with a rival, large or small, which failed to retard its productive capacity.

But this city of Penn, unlike any in the land, has ever refused to remain stationery in any portion of her space of one hundred and thirty square miles; and thus almost to her remotest limits the smooth granite face of her nine hundred miles of pavement tells the story of one of the important forms of municipal improvement that attests the progressive spirit of her government. Well may she point to her record as a builder of the "habitations of man"—two hundred and fifty thousand buildings, of which two hundred thousand are separate dwellings, a number sufficient to accommodate with a single house every family within the limits of the wide-extending town! Ever the city of comfort this Philadelphia of modern days may well echo the

demand embodied in the spirited challenge of the patriot mechanic of ante-Revolutionary days—"Is not half the property in the town owned by men who wear leather aprons?" The buildings are reared, ten thousand of them every year as statistics show, and in the erection thereof are poured out annually, the chief portion to the labor employed, the sum of twenty million dollars. Not uncared for and neglected by the jealous municipality are these miles of ever-growing habitations of the people: the gas main, the water and the drainage pipes are constantly, watchful and serpent-like, following them up. Four hundred miles of sewers and twenty-six thousand gas lamps, in addition to thousands of electric lights! How the spectacle of the lighted streets of the Revolutionary city in this day would dazzle the eyes of Peale of the old museum with his primitive display of "inflammable air," or progressive old Dr. Kugler, with his small gas-house which produced the mysterious fluid "for home consumption!"

Of all things which this town of Penn has done in her two hundred and eleven years of eventful existence nothing has been pursued more persistently and effectually than her schemes for the education of her youth; public and private schools, academies, colleges, universities and institutes having taken root and flourished in every quarter of her spacious territory. Two hundred and twenty-nine public school buildings, exclusive of public high schools and normal schools! Then there is the vast marble edifice which stands a monument to the benevolence and wisdom of Stephen Girard!—its orphaned boys by thousands filling positions of eminence, of trust, of profit and responsibility in the city and State of its location in this day, through the beneficence of the old merchant and trader who, in the ever-constant evidence of the enduring character of his work, seems to preside in the spirit with benign satisfaction in front of the towering Corinthian pillars of the vast pile, so stately in its commanding prospect, day by day through the years, with the mirth-driven peal of the active, buoyant figures, whose hearts have been lightened and futures assured through his bounty, ever rising from the green in the noon-day or evening hour until the still, pallid face of rock seems to smile. Could the old Philadelphian return in this day and behold the effect of his post-mortem influence he would perhaps feel that life to him had been a source of good, and that the wealth, accumulated by so much calculating, self-denial and personal sacrifice, had not been bestowed without wise discrimination and judgment. Far-sighted, kindly soul! man of grand beneficence who, turning his back on his own France, journeys beyond the sea to the new land, and casting his lot with the





THE OLD EXCHANGE BUILDING, Walnut and Dock Streets.





stout-hearted, manly Americans in the city of Independence, begins his wondrous career of prosperity and usefulness, and stamps his name ineffaceably on the American town, as likewise on the State of his adoption. Man of probity and of far-reaching, unending philanthropy, well does Philadelphia honor the name and memory of one so worthy of honor! How the name Girard is infixed, inwrought, interwoven in that of herself until the words are synonymous;—Girard avenue, Girard street, Girard bank, Girard row, Girard College, Girard Point, being a few of the many designations fixed by a grateful people as a reminder ever of the illustrious son of their adoption. Yet, not more illustrious than others of the same clime, for this France, which contested so fiercely her claim to half the wild American continent, with her ancient foe, has done wonders through her patriots and chivalrous champions of human rights in all the years of opposition and distress in the colonies. No sooner does the grim tocsin of war rive the throbbing air than forth strides with drawn sword and martial purpose the noble Lafayette, throwing to the winds the luxuries and the soft blandishments of his wonderful Paris, and wafted by propitious breezes, lands on the patriot soil and forthwith repairs to the camp of the valiant Washington.

Washington! Lafayette! what stout, unyielding links in the bond of friendship between two great nations do these names typify! Gallant, self-sacrificing, noble and chivalrous Frenchman! How bright seem the legions, the gaily uniformed infantry and the plumed grenadiers as they move in columned hosts with steadfast tread and even ranks, so imposing and glorious in the memory, causing Philadelphia's streets to resound with cheers from the assembled thousands in that eventful time after Monmouth when patriot hearts everywhere beat high, and only the unpatriotic, the foes of liberty, were depressed. Never were Frenchmen so dear to Americans as on that joyous day, so remote from the dark and misty beginning of the unfoldment of the New World when the storm-driven Eric saw through the spray of the northern sea the grim head-lands of a soil unknown and strange. A dreary lapse of time had intervened since that event, and France itself had recorded its experience with explorers and discoverers long enough before these grateful and appreciative Americans, who are so happy in their relations of friendship and amity with the descendents of the ancient Gauls, had any name or existence. Even in the seemingly distant day of the Revolution, when Washington and Lafayette and the whole grand host of patriots struggled and fought for independence, they could look back to the days of Columbus and marvel at the

immense stride in human progress since that memorable discovery at the mouth of the Orinoco ; they, whose stately figures loom dim and misty in the reach of years which, to the modern man, seems to relegate things of only a century ago to the ancient and endless past, there to have companionship with Eric and his Norwegians, of an era no less distant than ten centuries.

Thus measuring events affecting this hemisphere, the figures of Washington, Lafayette, Rochambeau, Steuben and of the long array of patriots born of the Revolution, seem quite near and distinct, and the brotherly service done by France appears a thing sufficiently recent to cause the grateful American of this day to rise hastily, forgetful of the slight lapse of years, and experience a desire to at once tender to the friendly nation his warmest thanks. . . That it should be always thus it is to be devoutly hoped, for when gratitude to France dies, American patriotism dies. The reader of his nation's history then, shall continue to feel himself strangely thrilled when there arises in his mind's eye the figure of the courtly M. de Luzerne, the French Minister and the friend and sympathizer of the Congress in all its movements ; will experience a throb of delight as he reads of the celebrations of important victories by the Congress at which M. de Luzerne was honored with the seat at the right of the President, and will dwell with gladness on the pages which tell of the unprecedented honors paid to Lafayette on the occasion of his several visits to the country after its government had become stable and well established. Fitting and proper it seems that if Philadelphia and Pennsylvania are to be indebted to one of foreign birth for the greatest of American philanthropic institutions, that one should be, of all nationalities in the world, a Frenchman. Nor shall the satisfaction of the descendents of Penn be less marked by the reflection that the Frenchman in question died an American by adoption, a compliment to the people among whom he dwelt, characteristic of his race.







THE ART CLUB, Broad Street below Walnut.





## CHAPTER XIII.

THE CITY OF PENN AND ITS OUTLYING SECTIONS—HISTORICAL PHILADELPHIA WITH INDUSTRIAL PHILADELPHIA ADDED—GROWTH IN WEALTH AND CONSTANT INCREASE IN POPULATION.

THE City of the Revolution, and the great American city of this Continent, Philadelphia, is blamed for being too conservative, for not being more noisy, more boisterous and bustling, in her outward demeanor, a fault of which she may be inclined to admit herself guilty. She is not alone a city of business but a city of residences in which employers and employes own their homes and even have owned them from that day in the year sixteen hundred and eighty-two when William Penn first set foot on his possessions west of the Delaware in America, and personally saw that his idea of “a green country town which should never be burned but always be wholesome” was faithfully carried out. The man of small means was given unusual inducements to buy property for a home; spacious boundaries were set that there might be room for all and the proportion of colonists who did not avail themselves of the offer to buy was so small it is scarce worth mentioning. It was essentially a buyers’ colony and not a renters’; the exemplification of the cardinal idea of the founder who wished to see all those who cast their lot with him possess their homes, that they might feel more free and independent. As the keel of the colonization craft was laid so it has remained. Look at the statistics of house-erecting in the city!—the growth of the town through a series of years. Four thousand three hundred and ninety houses built within the boundaries of the city in the year eighteen hundred and eighty-three! yet more marvellous still the number one year later—four thousand nine hundred and thirty-eight! Truly the spirit of growth is within her and continues to be, as the record for the year eighteen hundred and eighty-five proves. The number of houses built in these twelve months is six thousand three hundred and twenty-six. And yet the increase with every year continues—1886, 7,561 houses; 1887, 7,695; 1888, 8,337; 1889, 10,122; 1890, 10,287. Marvellous increase and growth! Yet men complain that the city of Independence does not display a scene of bustling activity such as may be witnessed in a town of contracted limits and scarcity of room for operating its business. This city of Penn is a large city,

so large that days may be occupied in making a tour of her industrial places to the exclusion wholly of the great central portion in which are the limits of the old town of Revolutionary days and of subsequent times until half a century afterward. The operation of her many and vast industries—her mills and factories and workshops—is conducted in various sections near to and remote from the centre; her Kensington, her Richmond, Frankford, Tacony and Holmesburg in the northeast; her Manayunk and Germantown on the north; her Mantua, Hestonville and Haddington in the northwest, with West Philadelphia, Paschalville and Angora on the west and southwest, and Southwark and Moyamensing on the south are all so many cities in themselves, centres of stupendous manufactories and of healthful and prosperous population, each place, though large and important, being an unsevered, uninterrupted section of the far-reaching and populous whole, with the same system of improvements, the gas mains and the drainage and the water-pipes penetrating as copiously and as abundantly in the distant sections as in the grand centre. The scene of the largest amount of manufacturing in America, yielding of carpets alone the greatest output in the world, this city of Penn is too large and too roomy to be noisy and bustling! likewise too busy. Her workmen and mechanics, when the day's labor is ended, go to their homes, purchased by them with the money they have earned, comfortably furnished by the same means and rendered healthful and attractive by the yard in front, on side, or in rear with its green plot of grass and blooming flowers. Their labor and their duties keep them there in one or other of the great outlying cities of the great city itself and they see the centre of the town—of the old town—perhaps two or three times a year. That the city of Penn may be thoroughly known the stranger should prepare for a stay of some length of time; he or she should visit the great cities, the outlying limbs of the city, where manufacture and industry incessant, unwearying and endless send forth their music in an atmosphere electrical, vibratory and resonant with the vitalizing subtlety and force of combined busy mechanical and human action. The civilized world may witness its source of supply of many necessary and useful things in this Kensington and Richmond and so forth, from carpets of finest make to marvellous record-breaking steel war cruisers; from tapestries and silks and plushes to ponderous fast-flying locomotives; from flannels and worsteds and cassimere to morocco and cordage and the best of American flint glass. From the carpet mills and the textile manufactories, fresh from the loom, come the unending variety of patterns for shipment, and likewise for display in the mammoth

General View of Girard Avenue Bridge from Zoological Garden, looking east.







establishments of retail trade on Chestnut and Market streets. Ever increasing and expanding, the sphere of industrial productiveness in the town of Penn is bursting through the remotest city limits and encroaching on the territory of the surrounding counties to an extent that presages a necessity for further annexation to a municipal territory already the largest in the world and the most universally available for the construction of houses for its citizens. Where will this expansion end? The city of Independence finds nothing new or strange in the fact that she is growing larger rapidly, for has she not been ever increasing in wealth as in population? Here is her land, valued at more than two thousand million dollars, selling rates, and yet her manufacturing interests demand some further operating room from the adjacent counties?

Well may the counties look with some apprehension on the threatened encroachment on their territory of the ever-increasing city, so true to the promise of her beginning away back in the days of her benevolent founder. For, has not her growth in population in the past thirty years been enough to arouse wonder among the most sanguine believers in her destiny? Six hundred and seventy-four thousand citizens in the year eighteen hundred and seventy, and nine hundred thousand ten years later! Yet, more striking still the increase in the following ten years,—one million and fifty thousand in eighteen hundred and ninety, and one million two hundred thousand in the year eighteen hundred and ninety-three!

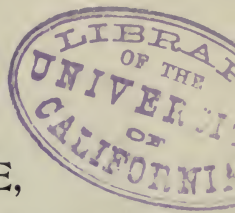
With the increase in the number of citizens every year there is also an increase in the number of buildings; ten thousand substantial structures ascending skyward and rendered complete annually at a yearly cost for the lot of twenty million dollars. It is one of the peculiar things about this Philadelphia that when any given industry reaches huge proportions, the conductors thereof, laying aside all business rivalry, come together in a spirit of pride and glorification, put their hands into their pockets and erect at joint expense a sort of Temple of Freedom or Exchange, in which structure all may meet and transact business. Thus in late years the city of Penn has witnessed the rise and development of the famous Builders' Exchange, which has proved to be the precursor to a general consolidation of many and varied great interests into one institution of such magnitude and importance as to place it, when completed, beyond anything of the kind in the world. Great have been the preparations for the construction of the Philadelphia Bourse, and immense will be the benefit to the world of business when it shall rise a finished product of the builder's

stupendous work. Ever restless and progressive, the city of Independence, with her countless industries, boundless facilities for commerce and untold resources, flies to the business of building and enlarging as readily and promptly as if that first Congressional assemblage in the Hall of the Carpenters had in gratitude evolved a patron saint for the town, whose inspiration was the craft that reared the walls of the old historic pile and made it the home and sheltering place of incipient patriotism.

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Reader: In this year of aroused patriotism and universally renewed interest and zeal in the task of historical research, if good fortune shall take you to the scene of that greatest of World's celebrations in the city of Chicago, so eloquently described and so vividly pictured by Philadelphia's talented son, Colonel Alexander K. McClure, where nations from the uttermost parts of the earth are meeting in glad reunion in honor of this wonderful America, on the occasion of the four hundredth anniversary of its discovery by the patient and far-seeing Italian, Columbus, fail not to wend your way to a certain towered building, so like the old Hall of American Independence, which men know well; and in the stately structure devoted to the use of Pennsylvania's citizens gaze on the historic bell which proclaimed that liberty which made the American nation free, as it sits there in the spacious rotunda, exhibited to the world under the auspices of Philadelphia's Joint Special Committee of Councils, and likewise view the relics of the days of Penn and of the later period of the Revolution, and in their mute eloquence read the heroic and salient things of American history.





# THE PHILADELPHIA BOURSE,

The Home of the Commercial, Mercantile, and Manufacturing Interests  
of the City.

THE Philadelphia Bourse was organized in June, 1891, for the purpose of erecting and maintaining in the heart of the business portion of this vast city, a building in which it is intended to effect the concentration of Philadelphia trade; to create one great centre where importers, manufacturers, merchants, bankers, merchandise brokers of all kinds, insurance, railroad and steamship agents, weighers, samplers, inspectors, etc., shall all be directly represented, and where anything and everything manufactured or for sale in the city can be purchased, invoiced, insured and shipped without going out of the building. Also to provide in the building suitable offices for the various manufacturers and others whose factories and places of business are distant from the center of the city and who desire to keep samples where they can easily be seen by the many buyers who come to this market, and lastly to establish a permanent exhibition of all classes of goods manufactured or for sale in the city, which will be open to the public free.

This building is now in course of erection on the block of ground bounded by Fourth, Fifth, Merchant and Ranstead Streets, and is within one hundred feet of both Chestnut and Market Streets, the principal business and banking streets of the city.

The building, which will cost about \$2,000,000, will be 362 feet long by 132 feet wide and nine stories high; the height from the street level to the roof will be about 145 feet.

A basement story will extend under the whole building and at the Fifth Street end will accommodate all the machinery, boilers, pumps, electric and elevator plants.

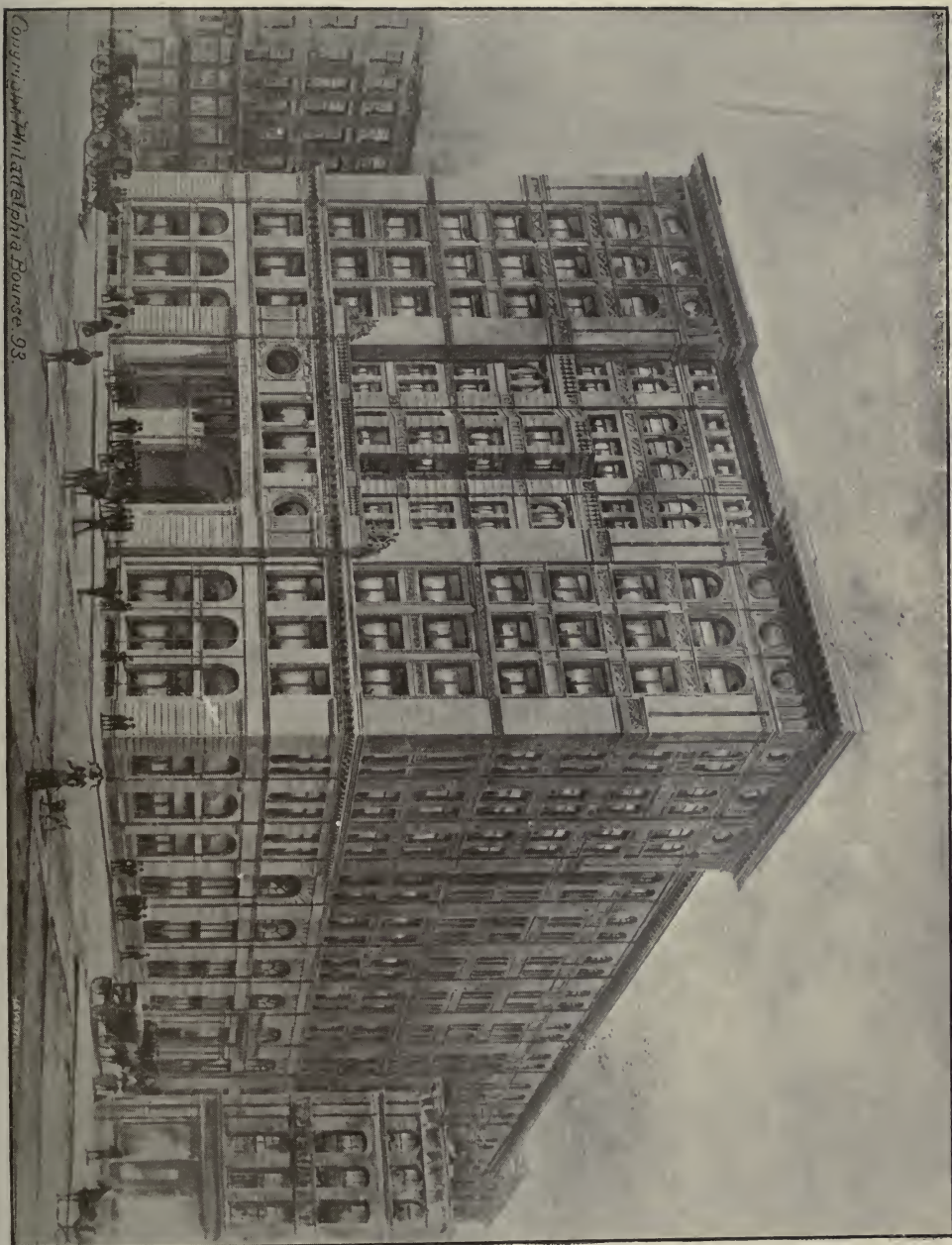
The exterior will be of red stone to the third story sills, a height of 45 feet, and the upper stories of Pompeian brick and with ornamental terra-cotta of a shade to harmonize with the stone. The first floor will contain the Great Hall of the Bourse, a room 232 x 125 feet in size and 55 feet high in the centre under the dome of the skylight, which will extend the whole length of the building and which will be 40 feet in width, allowing great floods of light to enter this, one of the largest meeting halls for commercial purposes in the United States



In this hall will gather daily representatives of all the business houses in the city, to the number of about 5000; the membership at the present time approximates 3000, but many firms and corporations will have several representatives present. At these daily meetings on the floor of the Bourse, one will be able to complete the most intricate business transactions from the purchase of material at a distant point, arrange for its transportation, manufacture, sale, shipment, insurance and negotiate the bills without leaving the building. On the ground floor there will also be four handsome banking rooms, together with telegraph offices and minor offices necessary for the proper handling of business and the comfort of members. In galleries along both sides of the Great Hall—27 feet above the floor—will be news rooms in which will be displayed the market reports of the whole world, which will be received by telegraph and cable, condition of crops, weather bulletins, stocks on hand, business changes and all information that will be of service to any of the members; also files of news and trade papers from all the principal cities of this and foreign countries, a commercial library, and large comfortable rooms for the entertainment of strangers from out of the city, making something in the order of a commercial club, combining physical comfort with business opportunities. The advantages of this will be appreciated by all business men who visit the city.

A particularly valuable feature will be the exhibition department, designed to occupy the entire top floor of the Bourse Building, where goods of a general character will be exhibited. In addition to this there will be a large hall in the basement, where machinery will be shown, both at rest and in motion. Manufacturers, agents and business men of all kinds, whose work or offices are located in other cities, and whose goods must be seen to effect a sale, will appreciate the value of a finely lighted exhibition hall, open free daily to all visitors, in a building that will be the recognized centre of business in such an important industrial city as Philadelphia. The merchant going to the city to purchase goods would find the Bourse equally convenient and valuable as a place where he could meet scores of wholesalers in a short time and save many valuable hours now wasted in going from place to place.

Beside the rooms devoted to these purposes, the building will contain about 400 offices of various sizes. They will be fitted up with all conveniences to be desired in a modern office building, and being directly in the business and financial centre will be in great demand. Manufacturers and business houses in other sections of the country



*Courthouse Philadelphia House, 93.*





desiring to locate a branch office or a representative in Philadelphia cannot find a better location, as they will be in immediate touch with all the people in the city with whom they may desire to do business. The Company will be glad to furnish all information regarding these rooms, upon request. Access to the different floors is had by a system of eight large hydraulic elevators, four at each end of the building, and stairways run from floor to floor both at the ends and in the centre of the building.

The basement, beside the machinery exhibition room, will contain a restaurant of moderate size, a barber shop with bathing facilities and large toilet and cloak rooms.

The completion and occupancy of this magnificent building will mark the advent of a new factor into the business world and the commercial body which will be organized from the vast membership of the Bourse will take an active and leading position in directing all the movements which from time to time arise in the commercial life of a great city. Philadelphia is to be congratulated that at last an organization exists in her midst which will be of a magnitude commensurate with her importance and capable of commanding, both at home and abroad, the respect which is naturally accorded to an association of vast proportions dealing intelligently and in a dignified manner with subjects of great importance. It is earnestly hoped that business men from all of this wide land of ours, as well as those from abroad, will accept the invitation that is extended to them to visit the Philadelphia Bourse and avail themselves of the privileges and advantages for the transaction of business there offered. They can feel assured of a hearty welcome in the City of Brotherly Love and will doubtless carry away with them substantial results of their visit to this new home of the commercial, mercantile and manufacturing interests of Philadelphia.

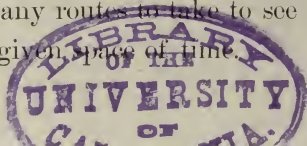




## A GREAT RAILROAD.

ONE of the greatest railroads of modern times both for extent of route and scope of territory covered, as well as for variety of grand scenery, is the CHICAGO, BURLINGTON & QUINCY, running west from Chicago, whose familiar sign, "Burlington Route" stares one in the face in every hotel office and public house in the land. There is not an important city between Chicago and far Wyoming State which the Burlington does not touch, its system presenting one vast network of interlacing tracks and sweeping north and south in numerous branches from its great westward trunk, thus cutting a wide swath through two and more States as it progresses toward the Pacific.

It extends to Sheridan in the extreme northern part of Wyoming, having its terminus in the region of the Shoshone and Big Horn mountains. Almost directly south it has another line reaching more directly west which terminates at Cheyenne, and directly south of this terminus it has still another line, or prong, ending at Denver, or strictly speaking at Lyons, in the Rocky Mountains, beyond Denver. It is difficult for the mind to realize the vast extent of territory covered by this great system. Starting at Chicago it covers with numerous branches all of Northern and Western Illinois and when it reaches the western border of the State it branches in two great lines directly north and south to St. Paul and Minneapolis and to St. Louis respectively, the latter city being almost a thousand miles south on a parallel line from the two rival Minnesota towns. The main line meanwhile continues westward, touching Des Moines, Council Bluffs, Omaha, St. Joseph, Lincoln, Kansas City, Atchison, Leavenworth, and hundreds of other cities and towns in the vast western half of the continent. To one desiring to see the great west with its marvelous scenery, its wondrous thrift and enterprise the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy affords a constant panorama of grand sights, ever varying and always delightful. Mr. P. S. Eustis, its enterprising General Passenger and Ticket Agent in Chicago, is ever ready to give or forward information as to the best of the Burlington's many routes to take to see the most of the famous western scenery in a given space of time.





MAIN BUILDING, PENNSYLVANIA HOSPITAL.





CHESTNUT STREET BRIDGE over the Shuylkill, and B. & O. RAILROAD STATION at Twenty-fourth and Chestnut Streets.







GERMANTOWN CRICKET CLUB.

COLUMBIA CLUB,  
Broad and Oxford Streets.

ATHLETIC CLUB OF THE SCHUYLKILL NAVY,  
Arch Street, near Seventeenth.





CHESTNUT STREET, from Corner of Ninth, looking west.







THE McDANIELS AND DELAPLAINE SCHOOLHOUSE, Twenty-first and Moore Streets.













NEW BUILDING OF WOMEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION, Eighteenth and Arch Streets.





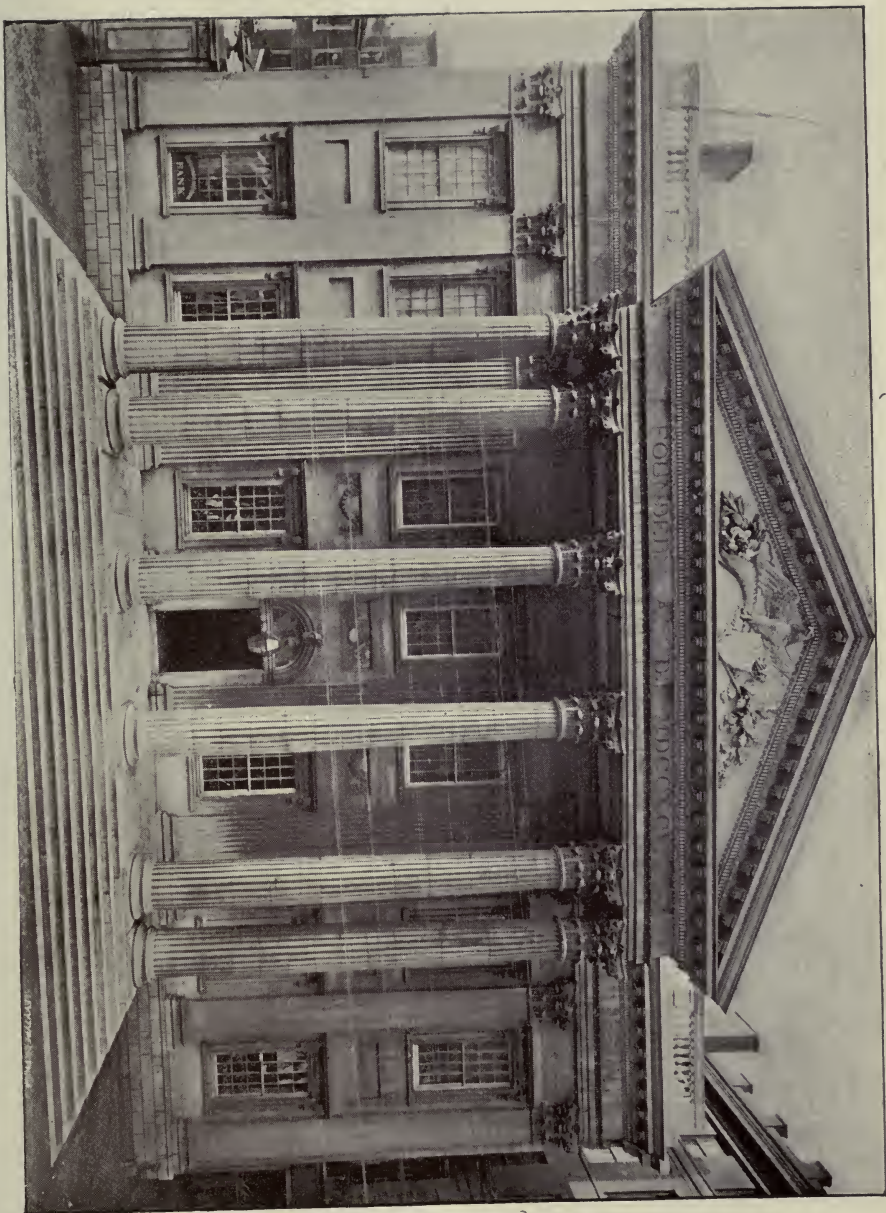
GROUP OF HISTORICAL CHURCHES.  
OLD SWEDES CHURCH.

CHRIST CHURCH.

ST. PETER'S CHURCH.



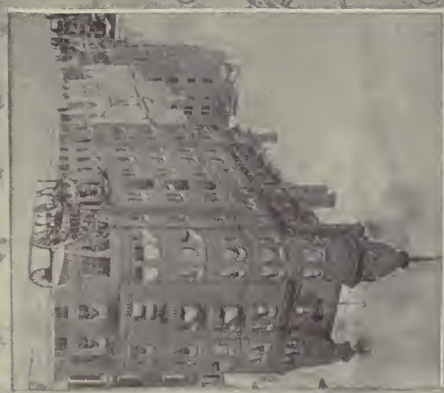
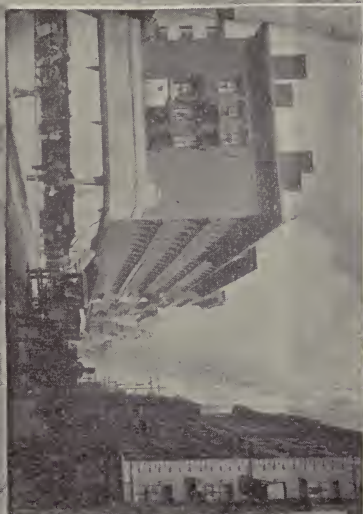




GIRARD BANK BUILDING, Third Street near Walnut Street.







GIRARD HOUSE.

GROUP OF PHILADELPHIA HOTELS.

THE STENSON.





UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA



GROUP OF PHILADELPHIA HOTELS.

LAFAYETTE HOTEL,  
1801 & 1803 N. 10TH ST.

THE STRATFORD,  
1801 & 1803 N. 10TH ST.







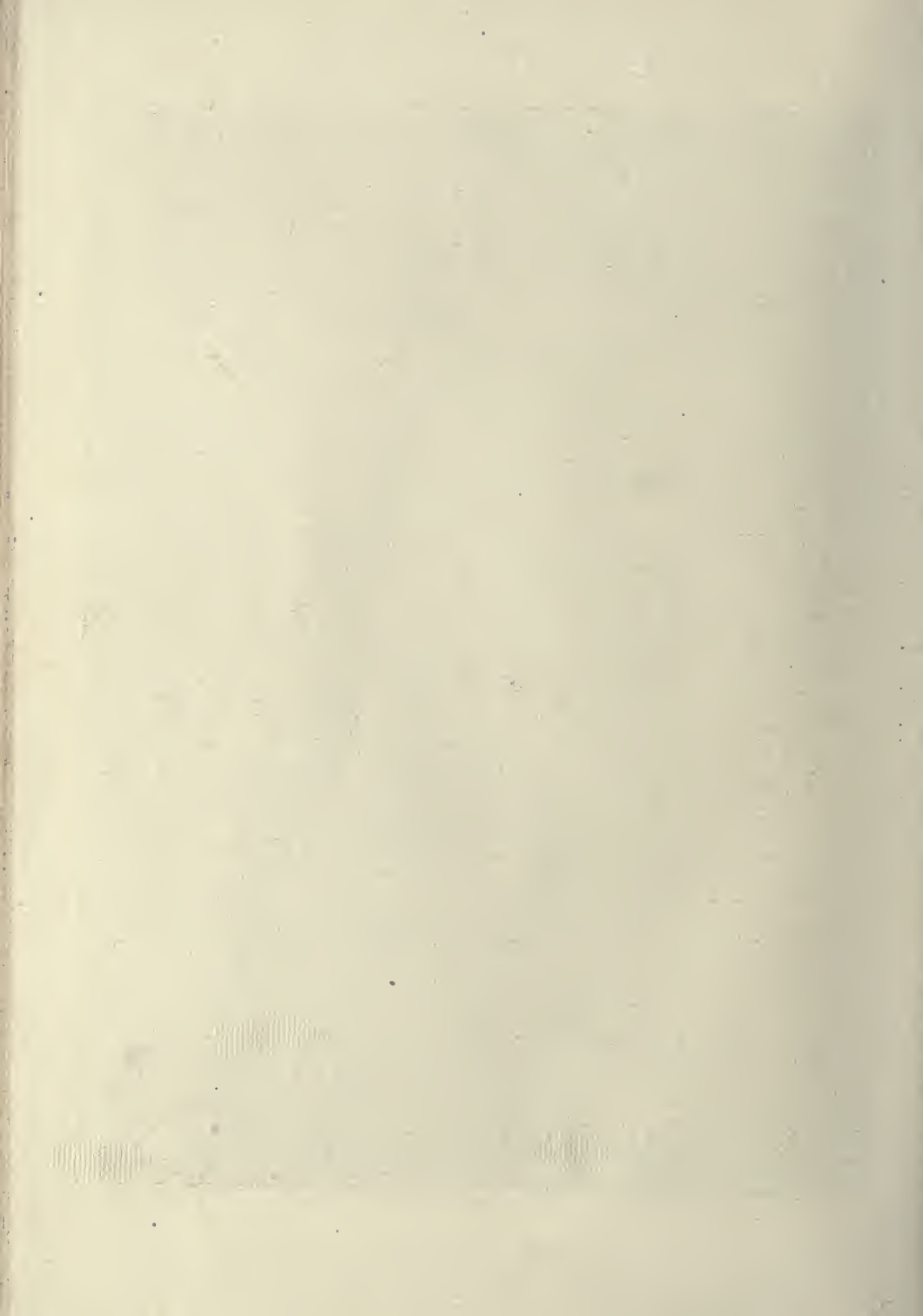
NAVAL ASYLUM, Gray's Ferry Road.







ACADEMY OF MUSIC, Broad and Locust Streets.

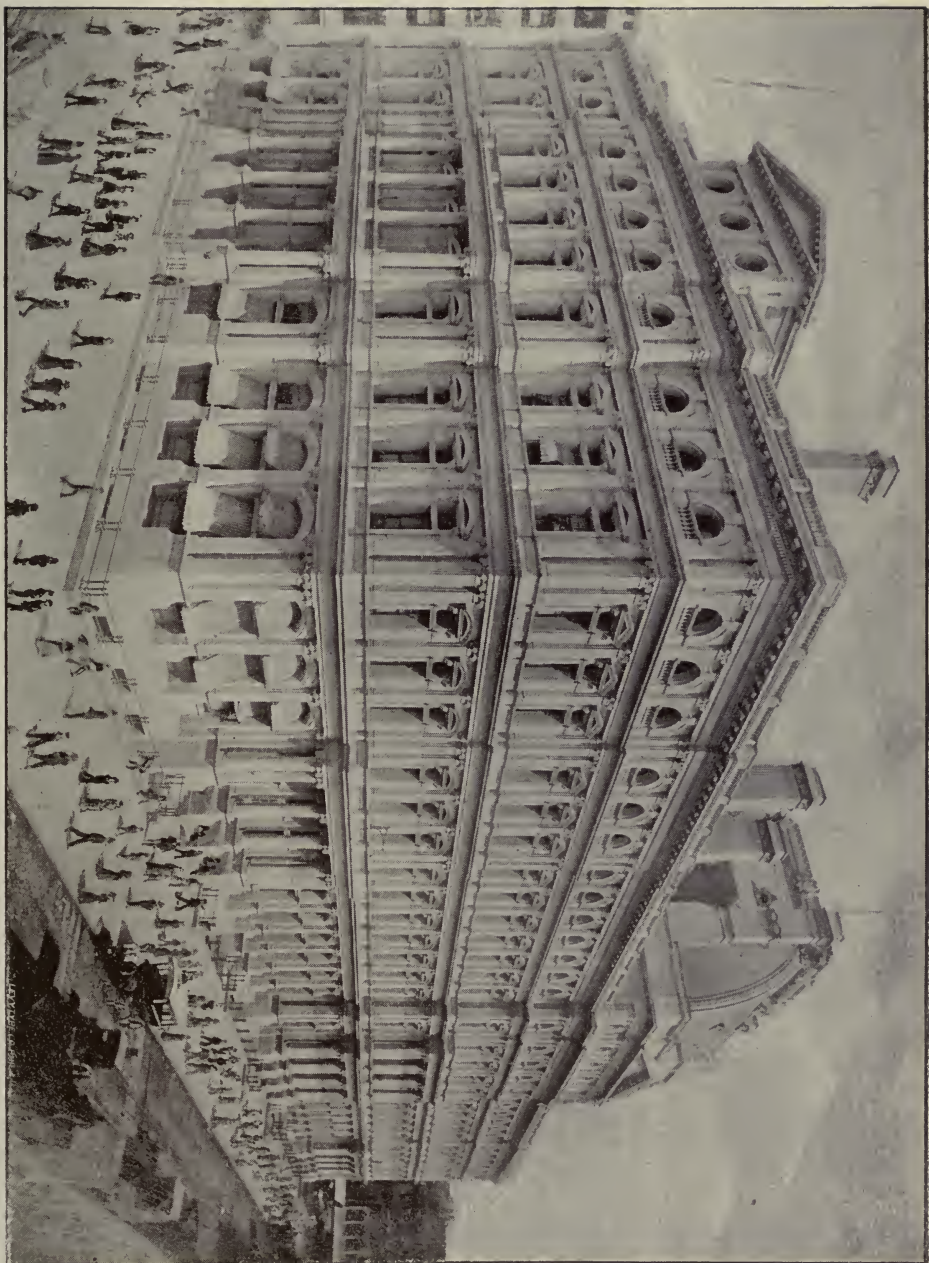




BROAD STREET, north from Girard Avenue.  
Residences of Messrs. W. L. Elkins and P. A. B. Widener on the right and left.



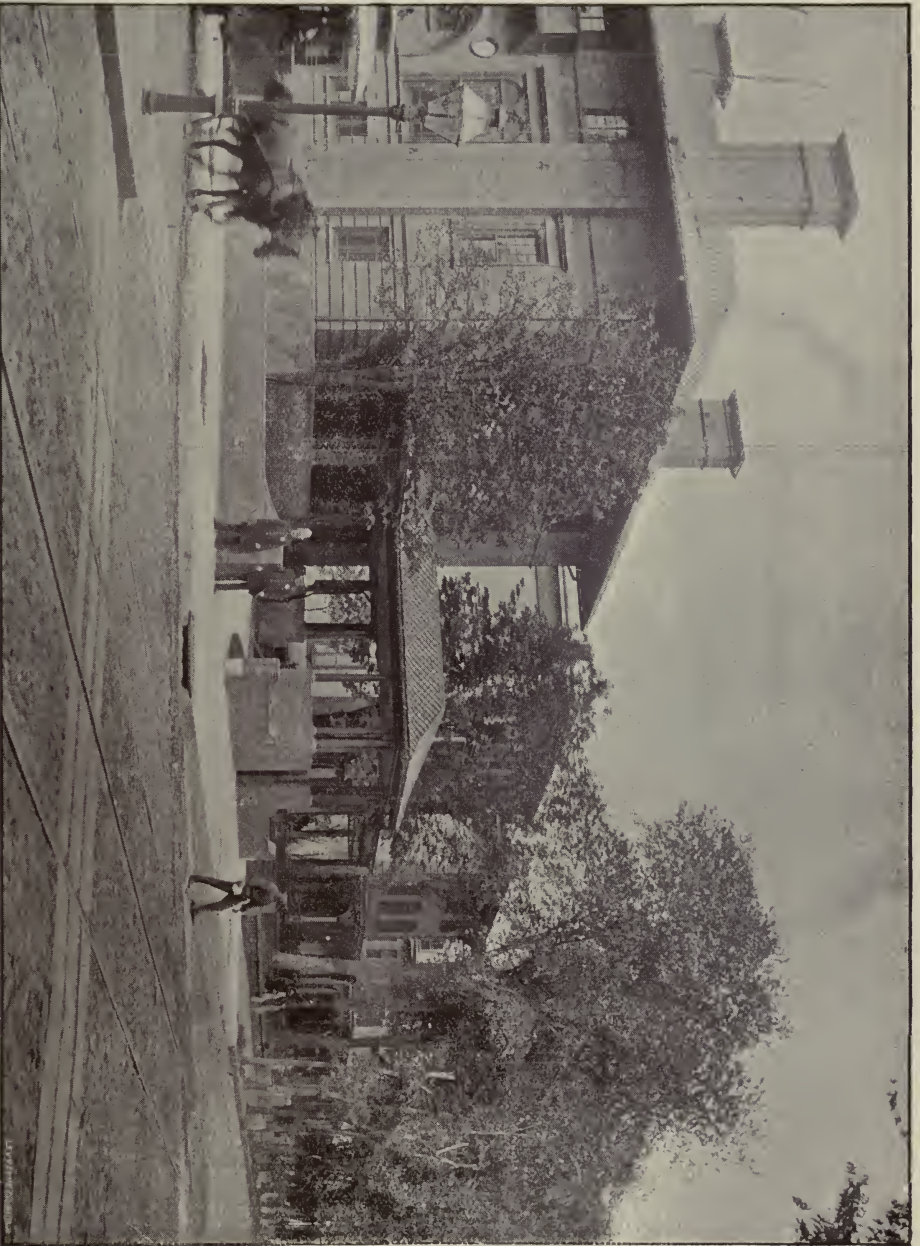




PHILADELPHIA Post Office, running from Chestnut to Market Streets, facing Ninth Street.





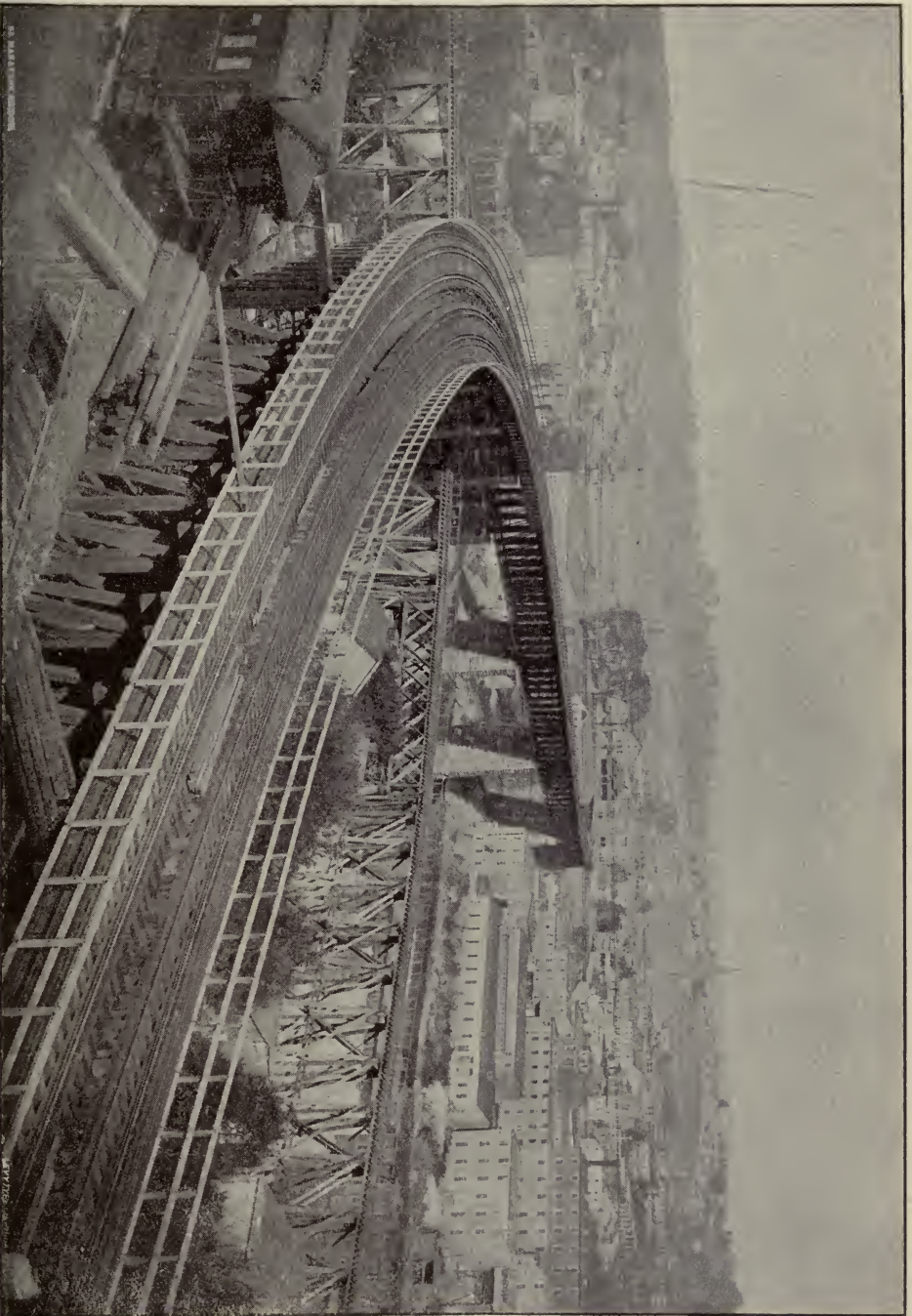


BARING STREET, from Thirty-sixth Street, looking east.





PENNSYLVANIA R. R. BRIDGE, SCHUYLKILL VALLEY DIV., from west side of Schuylkill towards Manayunk.







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CALIFORNIA



RESIDENCES ON BROAD STREET BELOW GIRARD AVENUE.



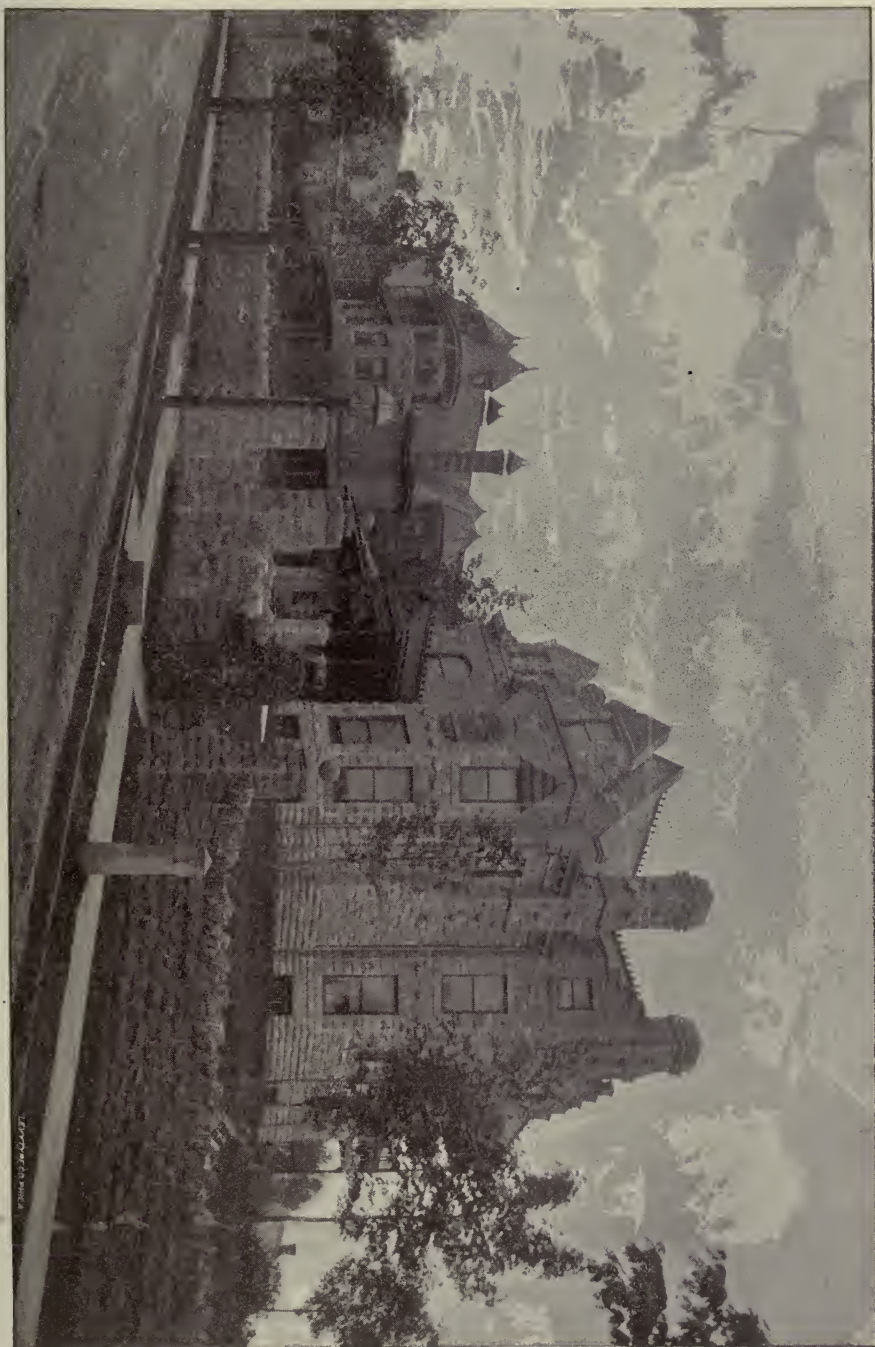




FRIENDS' MEETING HOUSE AND COURT HOUSE, Second and Market Streets, at the time of the Revolution.  
From an old water-color painting.



VIEW ON WALNUT LANE, Germantown.



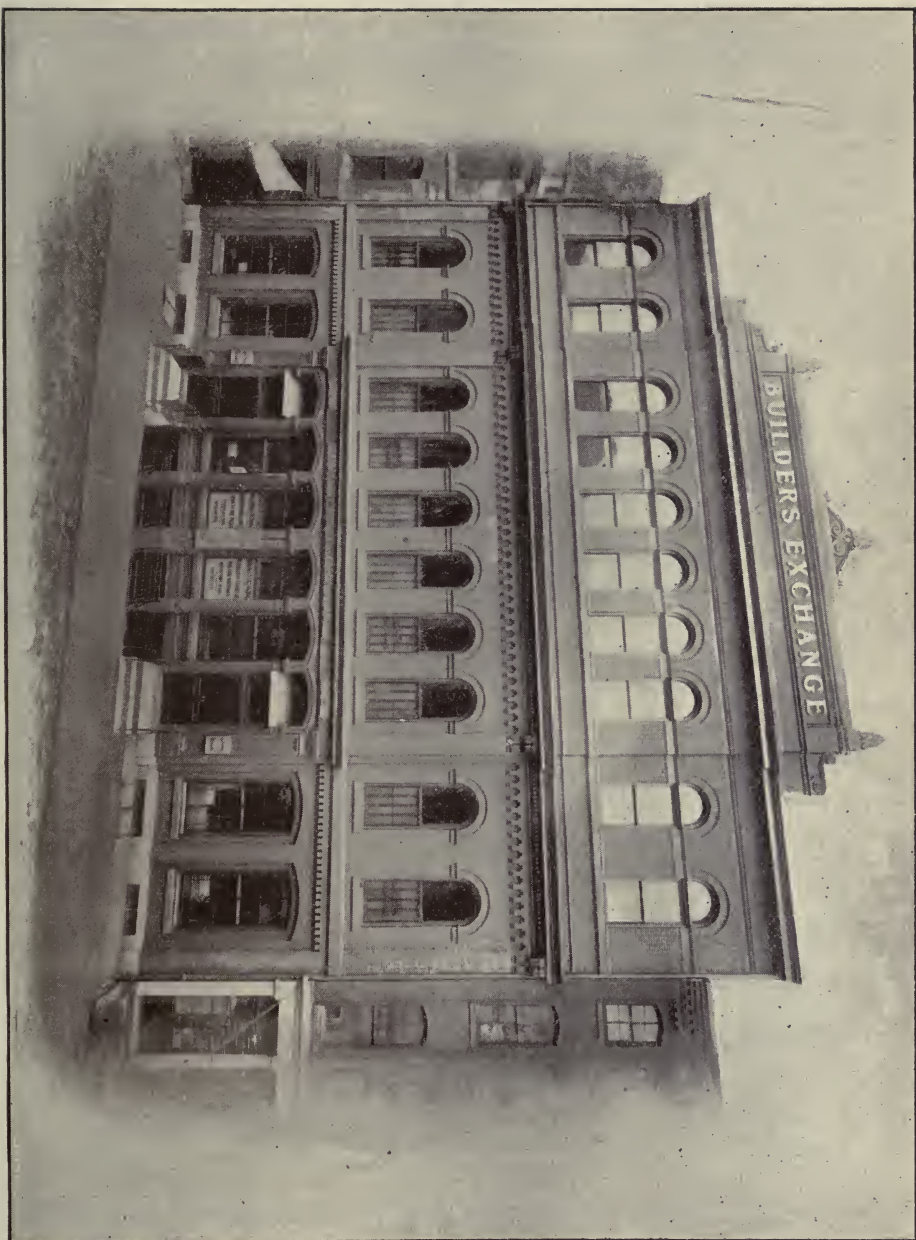






Boys' High School, Broad and Green Streets.





BUILDERS' EXCHANGE, Seventh Street below Market Street.







GIRLS' NORMAL SCHOOLS.

New School, Thirteenth and Spring Garden Streets.

Old School, Seventeenth and Spring Garden Streets.



SOFT COAL HOLLOW, Point Breeze, Penna. R. R.









POLICE, FIRE AND PATROL STATIONS, Twentieth Street below Federal.





RESIDENCE OF MR. GEORGE W. CHILDS, Twenty-second and Walnut Streets.





WISSAHICKON CREEK, from the Dam.



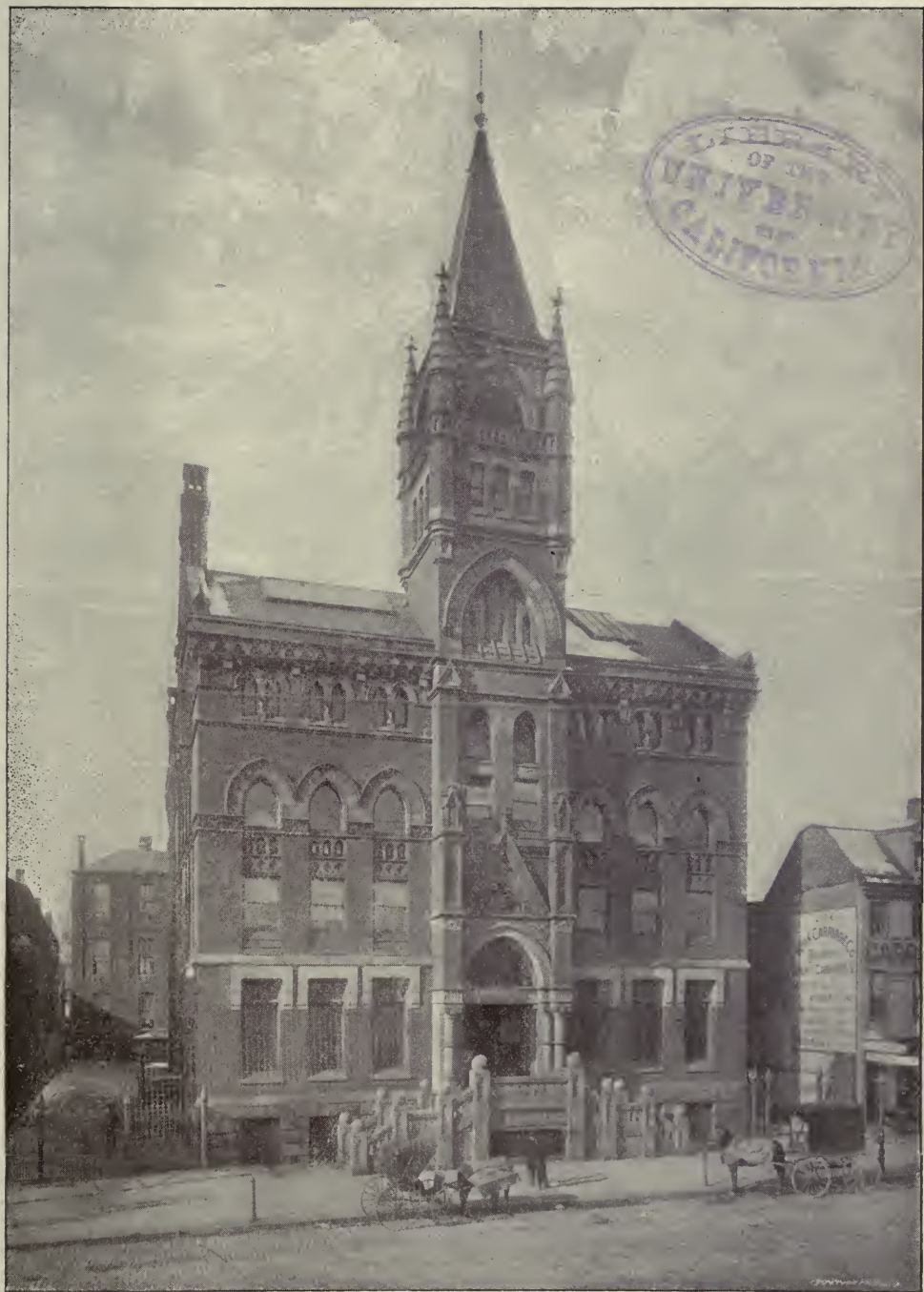




YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION, GERMANTOWN.



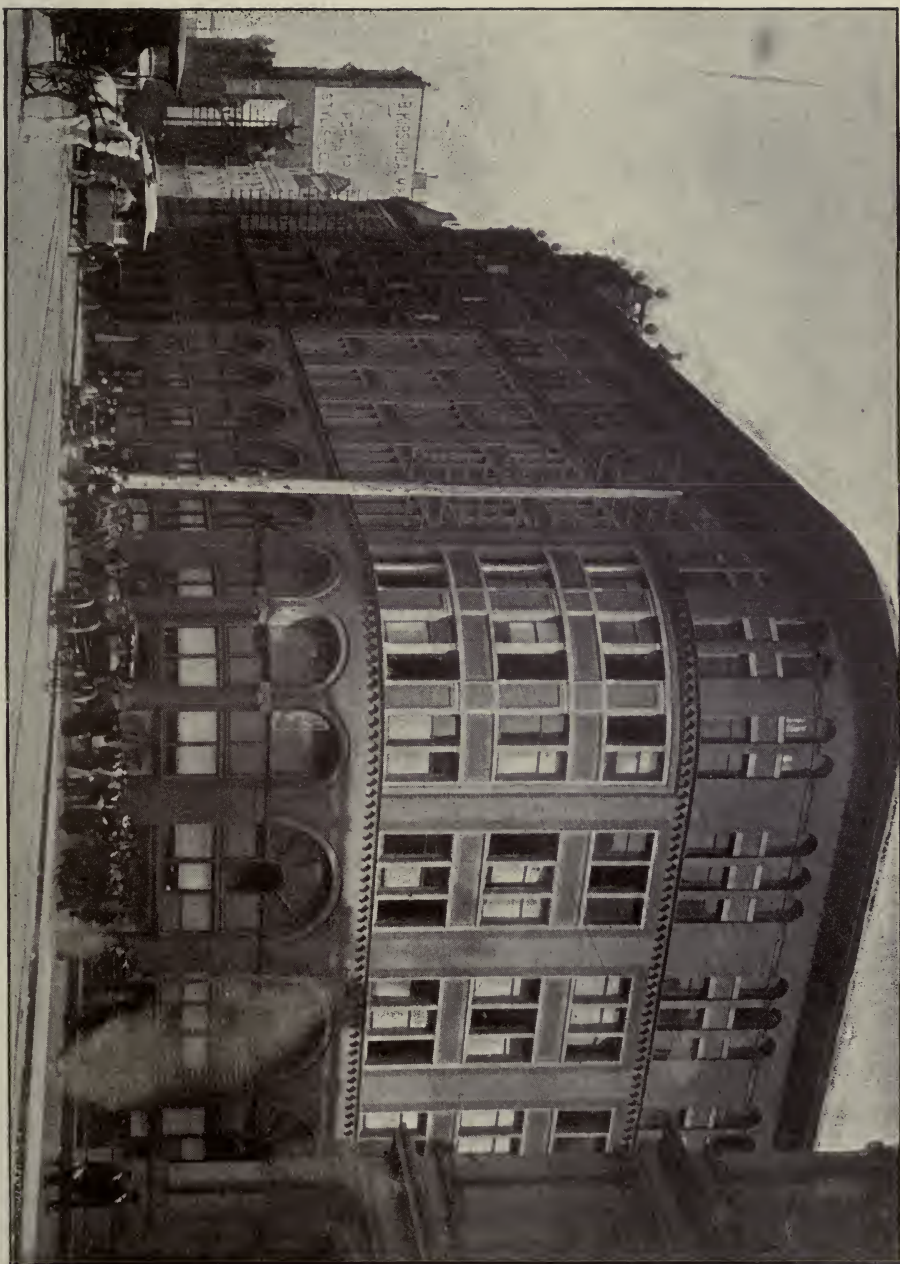




HAHNEMANN HOMOEOPATHIC COLLEGE AND HOSPITAL, Broad near Race Street.



MARKET STREET, from corner of Ninth Street, looking east.









JEWISH FOSTER HOME,  
BAPTIST HOME.

ORTHOPEDIC HOSPITAL,  
COLLEGE OF HYGIENE.





THE MARY J. DIXONEL HOME.



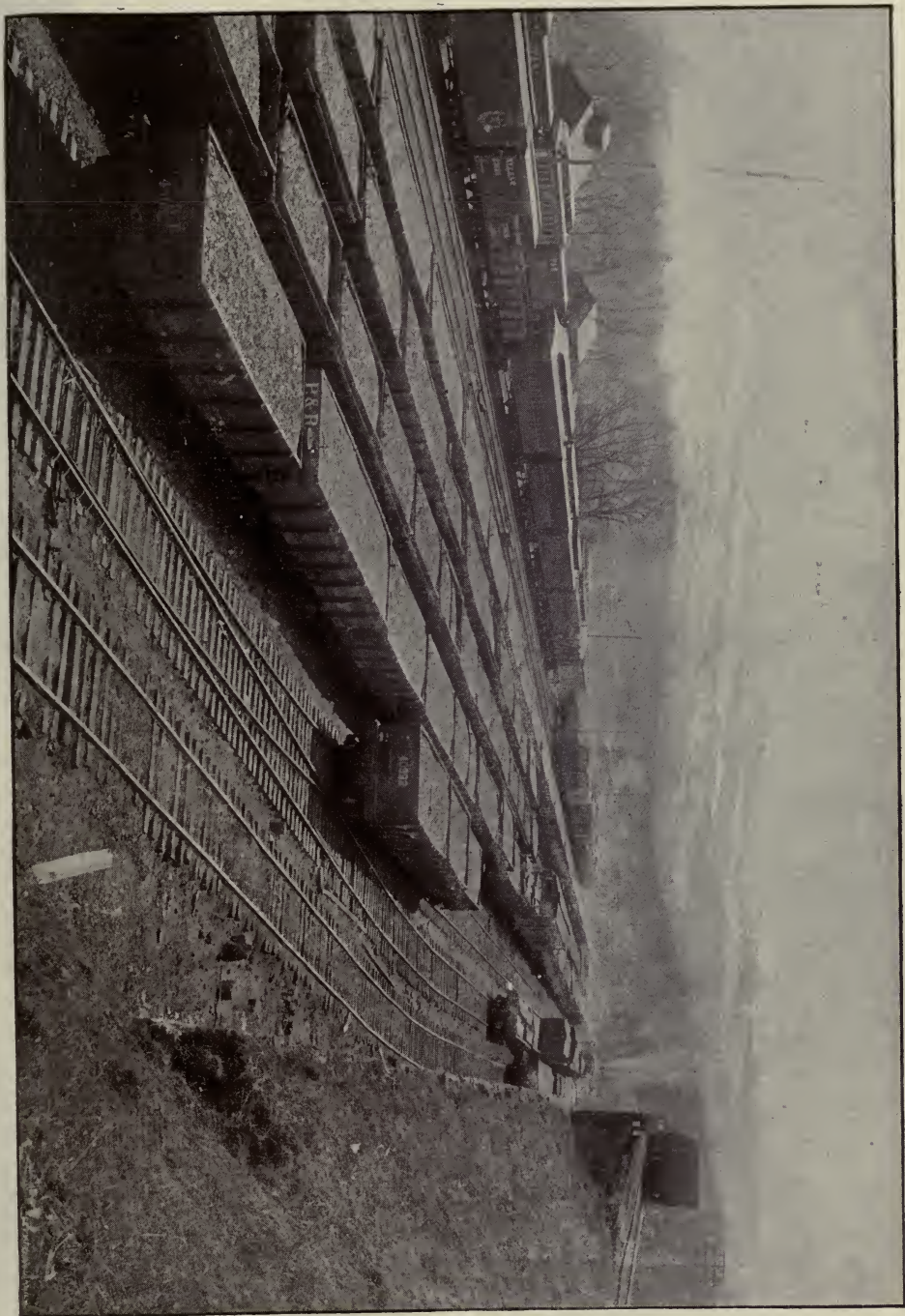


View on NORTH BROAD STREET, from residence of Mr. P. A. B. Widener, corner of Girard Avenue, looking North.



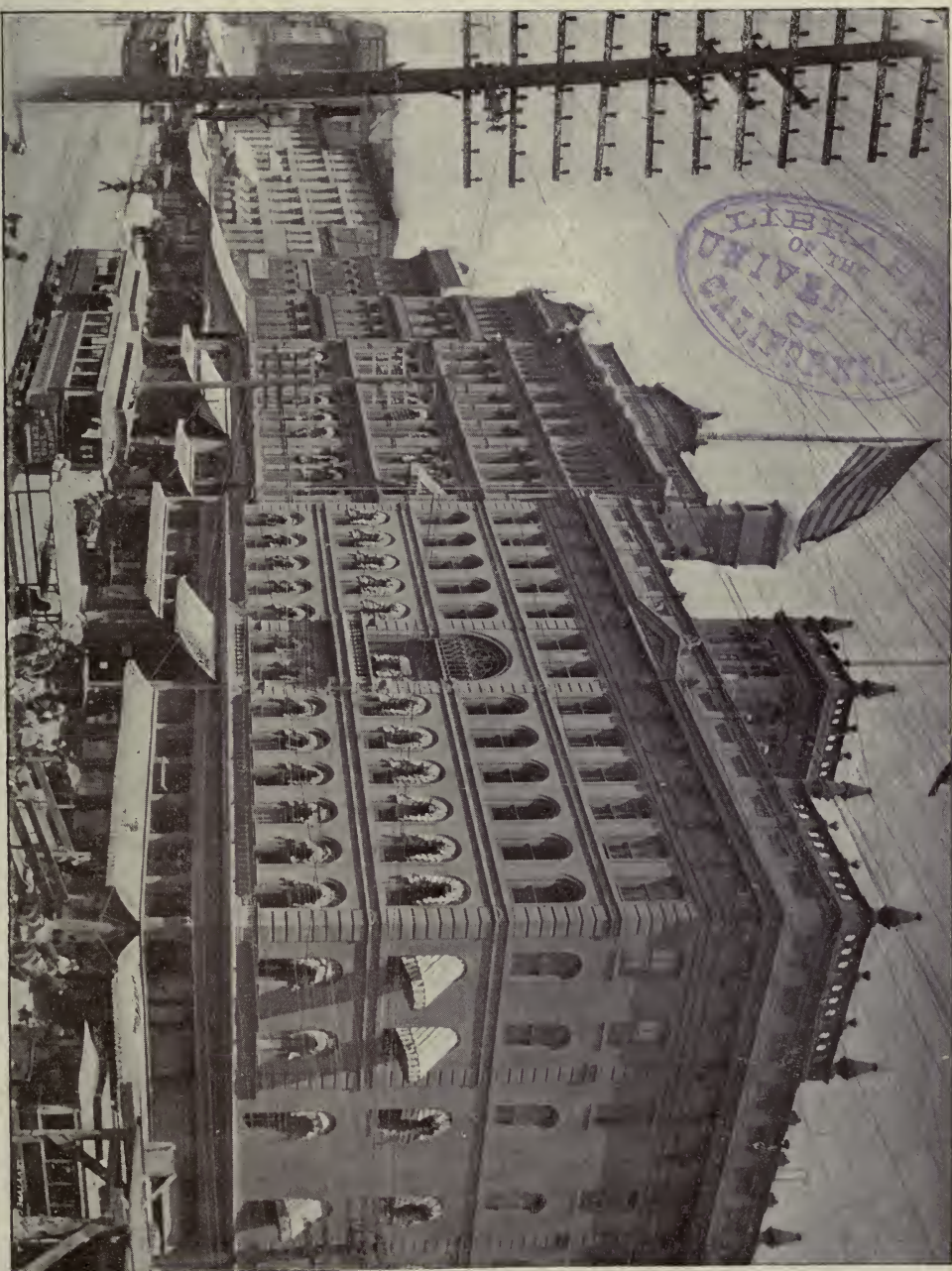


View on PHILADELPHIA AND READING R. R., east of Columbia Bridge.









View on MARKET STREET, from corner of Eighth Street, looking west.







BROAD STREET, from corner of Walnut, looking North towards City Hall.







GROUP OF PHILADELPHIA CHURCHES.  
 GRACE BAPTIST CHURCH.  
 BETHANY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

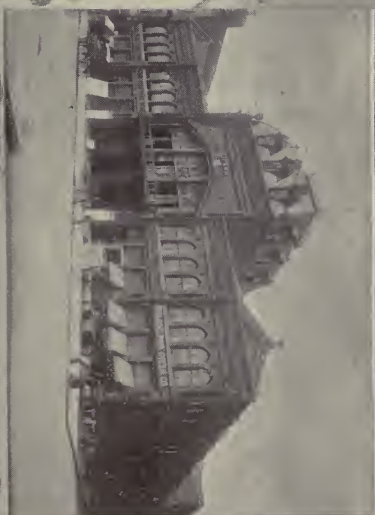
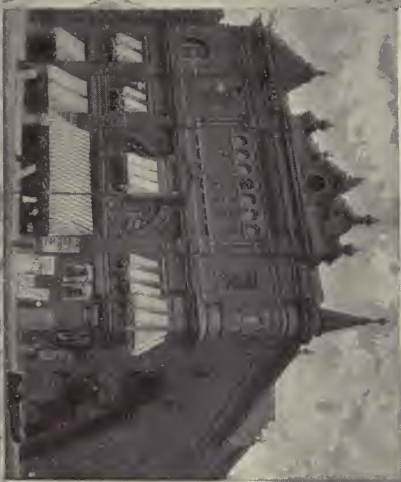




COLOSSAL STATUE OF WILLIAM PENN, to surmount the Tower of the City Hall.







GROUP OF PHILADELPHIA THEATRES.

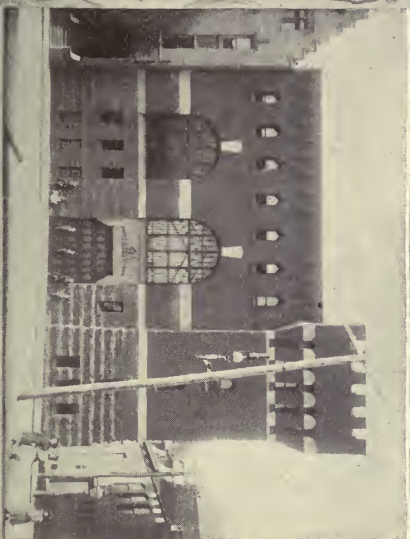
PARK THEATRE.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE.

EMPIRE THEATRE.

CHRISTY STREET THEATRE.





PHILADELPHIA ARMORIES—NATIONAL GUARD OF PENNSYLVANIA.  
 FIRST REGIMENT.  
 CITY TROOP.  
 THIRD REGIMENT.  
 STATE FENCIBLES.



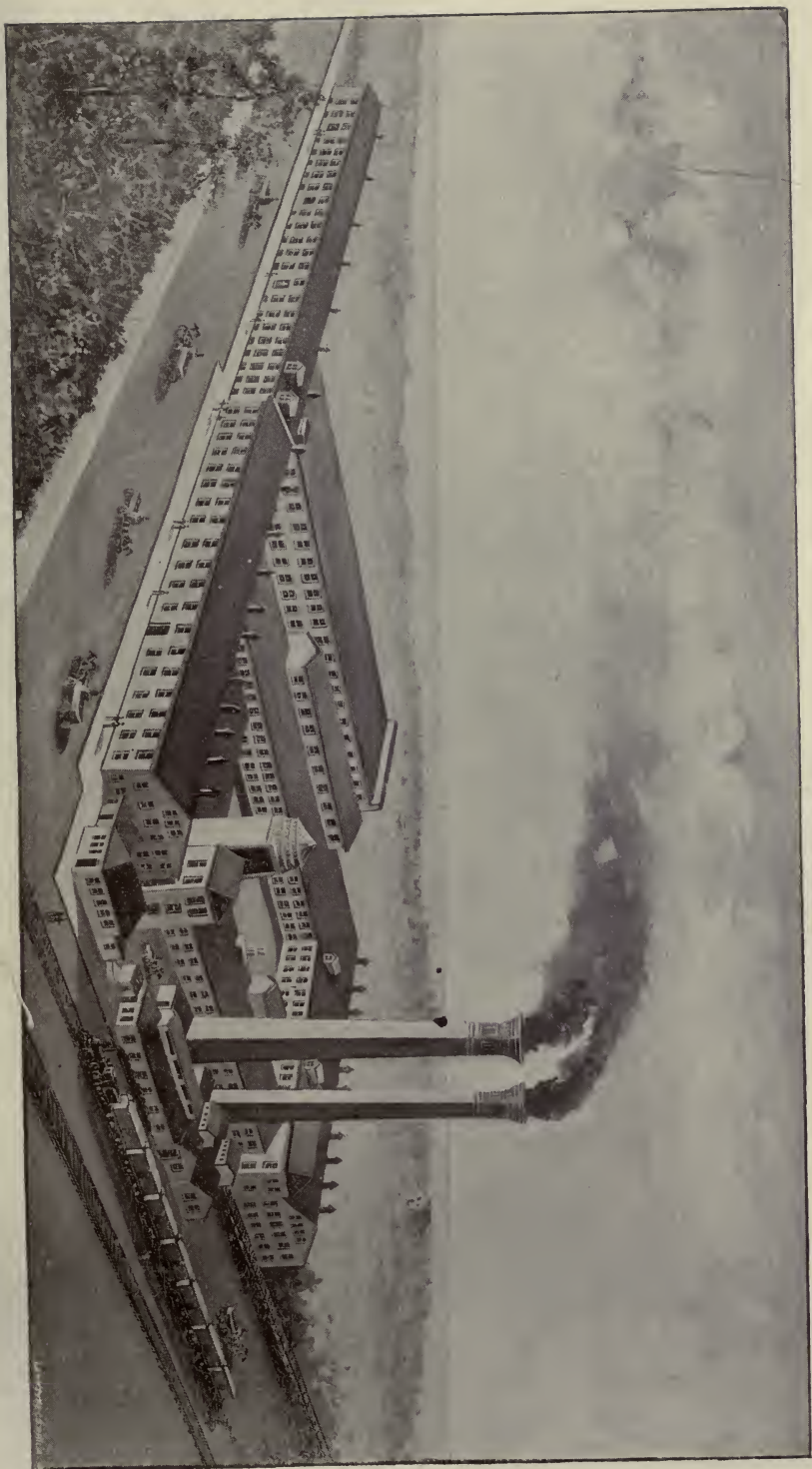




HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF PENNSYLVANIA.  
FRANKLIN INSTITUTE.  
SPRING GARDEN INSTITUTE.



PAPER MILLS, (Richmond), Philadelphia.







CHURCH OF THE ATONEMENT (Episcopalian), Seventeenth and Summer Streets.







Row of typical workingmen's houses, Fisher Street, between Fifth and Sixth Streets, First Ward.







THE FRIENDS' SCHOOL, GYMNASIUM AND LIBRARY, Sixteenth and Race Streets.



PHILADELPHIA HARBOR.  
Showing the Islands now being Removed by the United States.









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